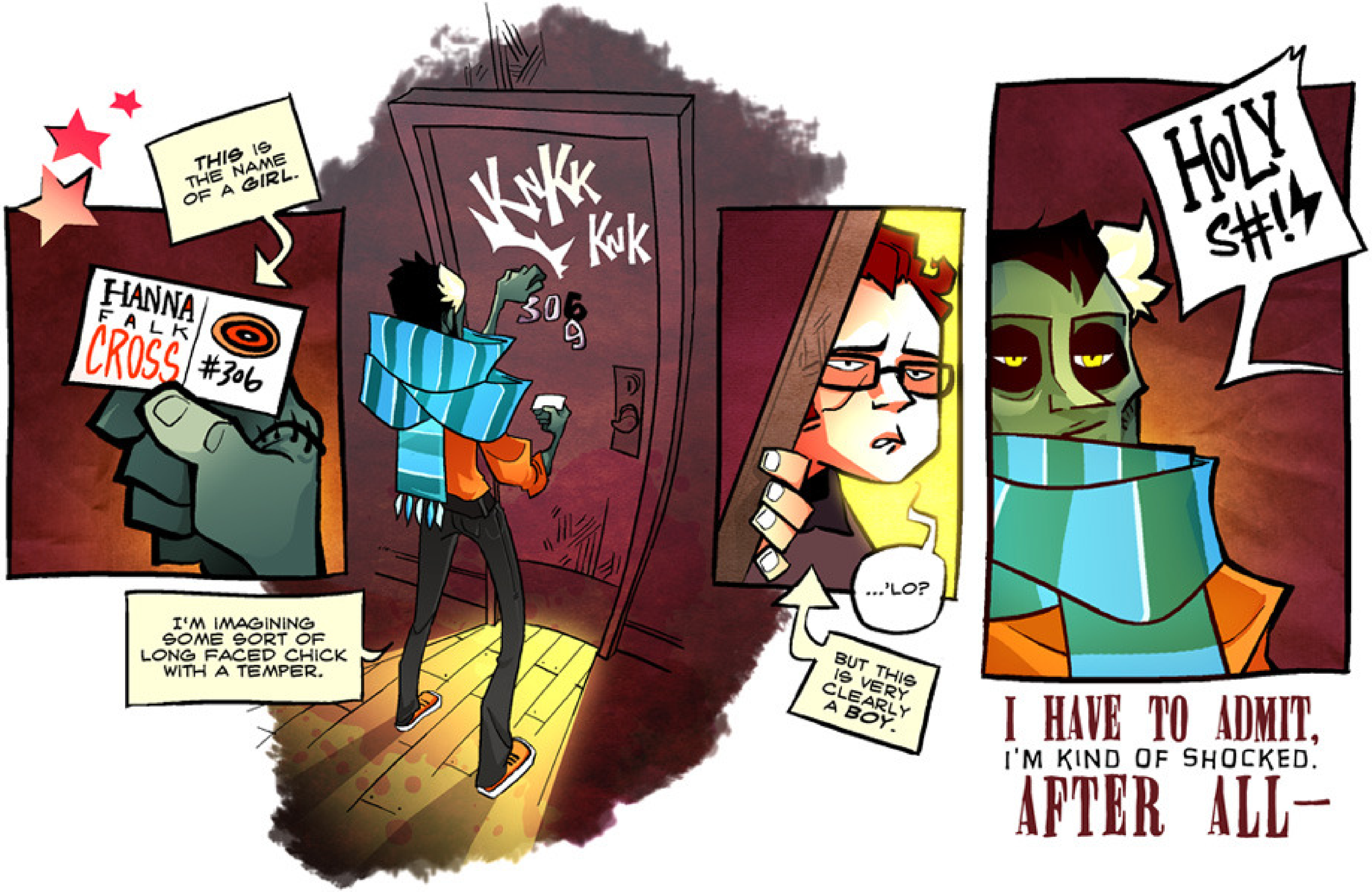
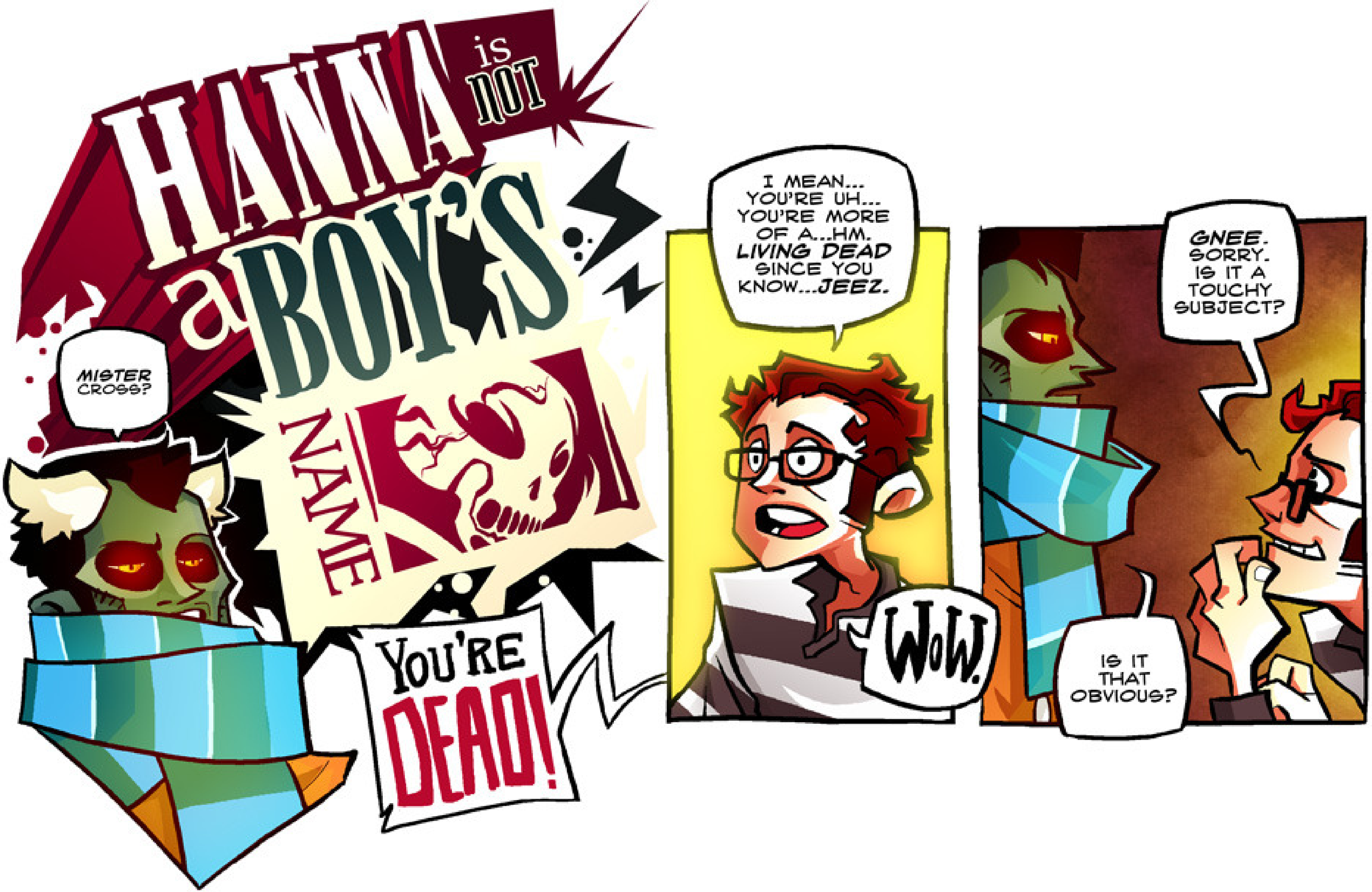
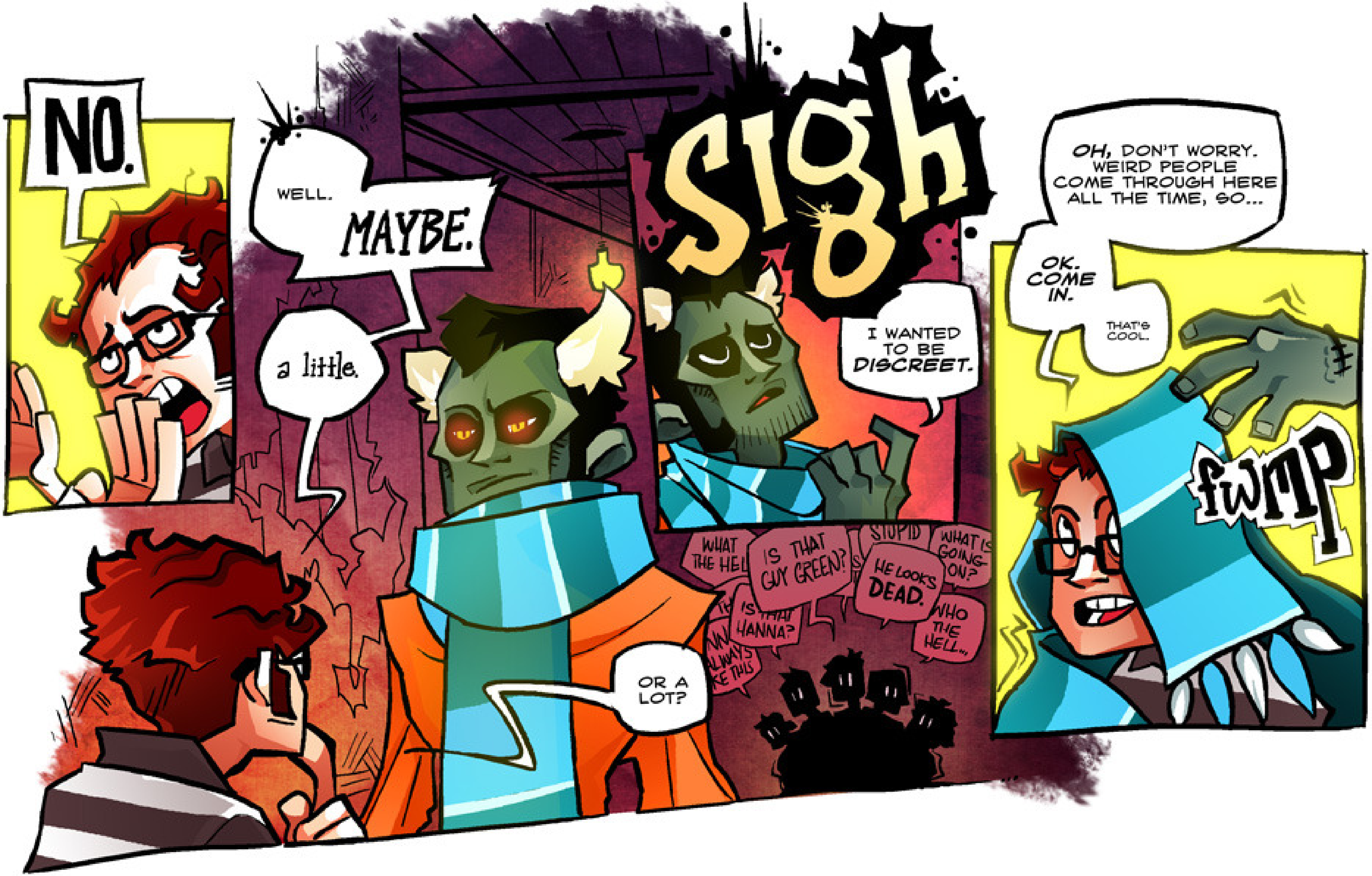
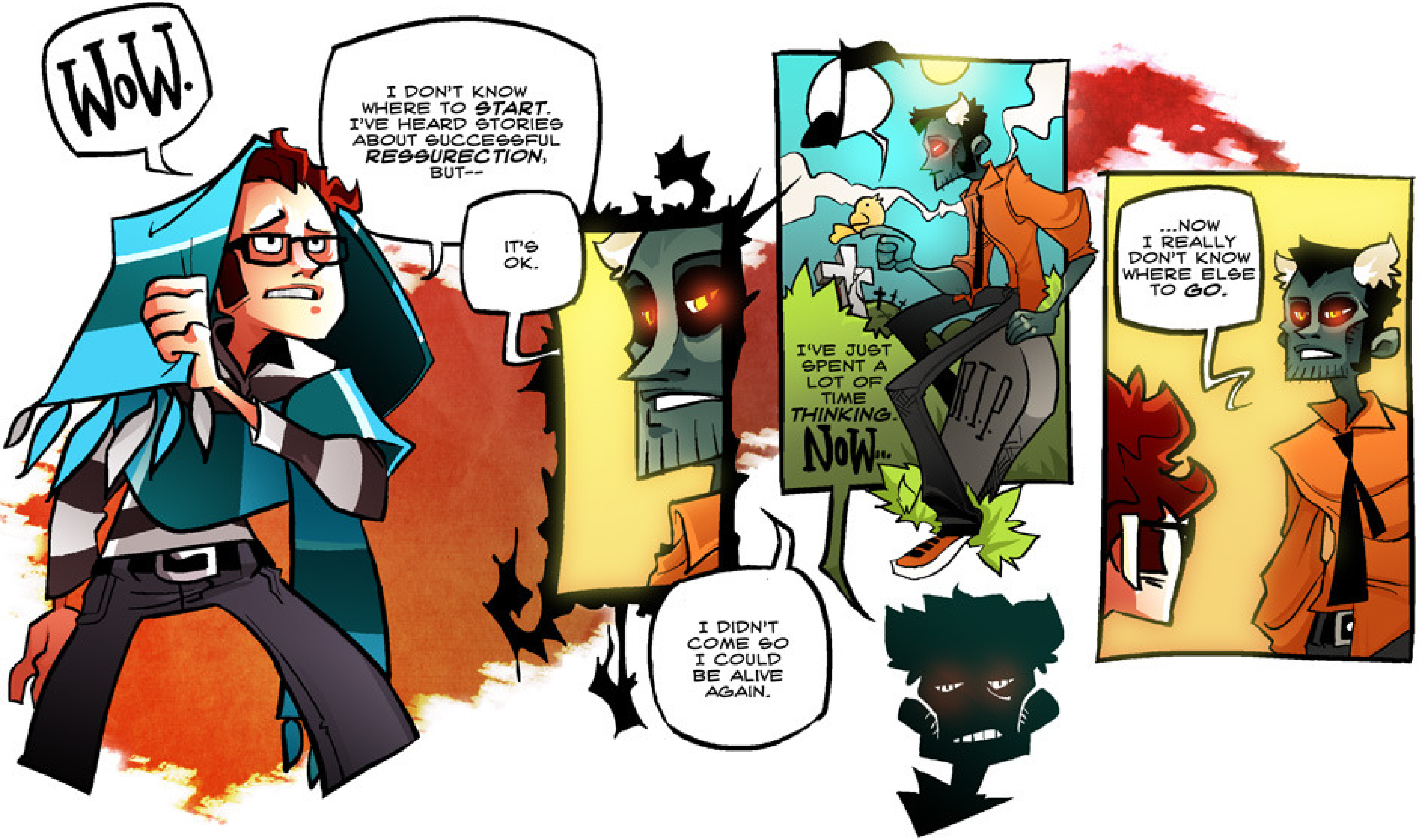
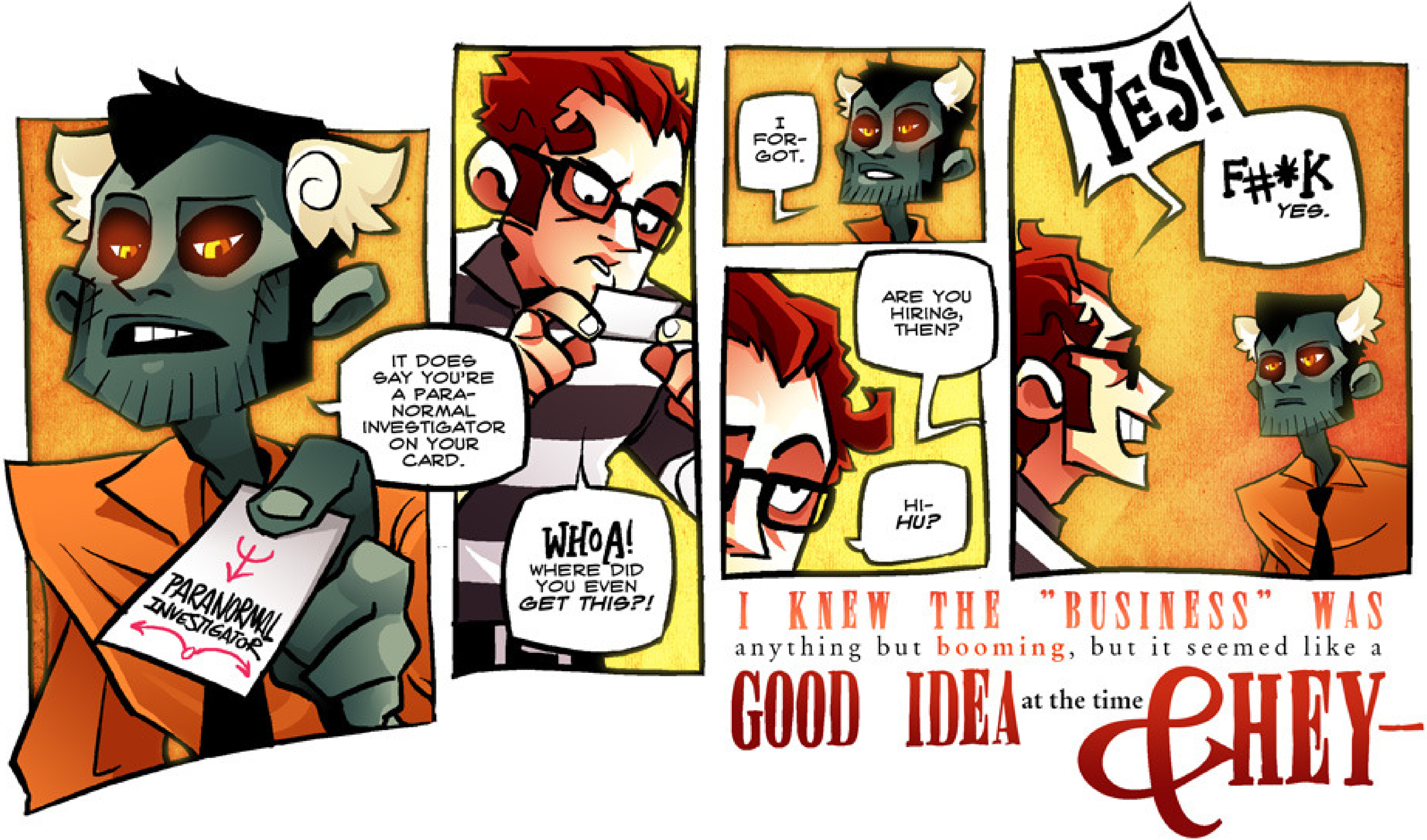
HANNA IS NOT A BOY'S NAME


THIS IS THE NAME OF A GIRL.
HANNA FALK CROSS
#306
I'M IMAGINING SOME SORT OF LONG FACED CHICK WITH A TEMPER.
KNKK
KNK
306
9
...'LO?
BUT THIS IS VERY CLEARLY A BOY.
HOLY S#!$
I HAVE TO ADMIT, I'M KIND OF SHOCKED. AFTER ALL—

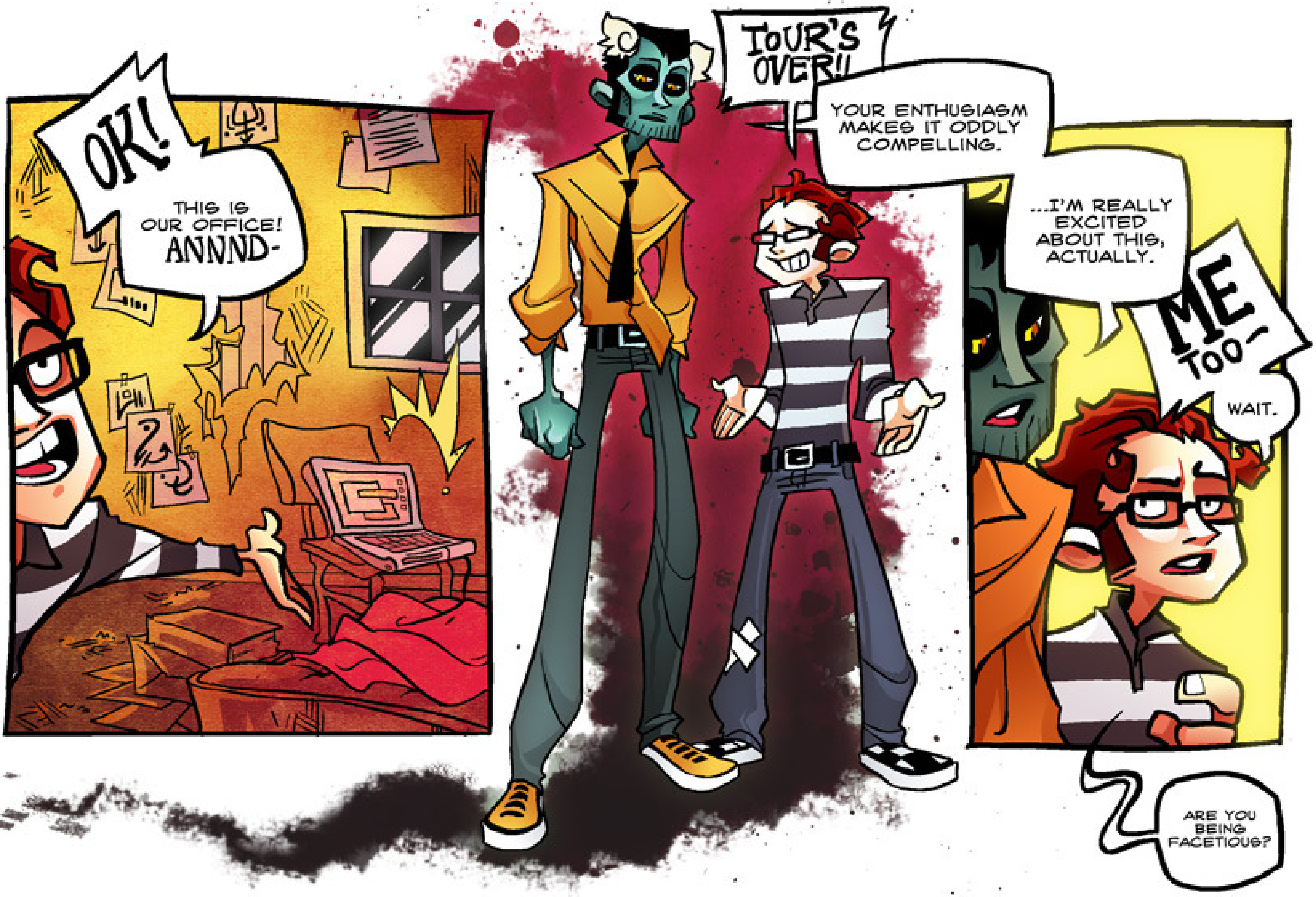

HANNA is NOT a BOY'S NAME
MISTER CROSS?
YOU'RE DEAD!
I MEAN... YOU'RE UH... YOU'RE MORE OF A...HM. *LIVING DEAD* SINCE YOU KNOW...*JEEZ.*
WOW.
GNEE. SORRY. IS IT A TOUCHY SUBJECT?
IS IT THAT OBVIOUS?

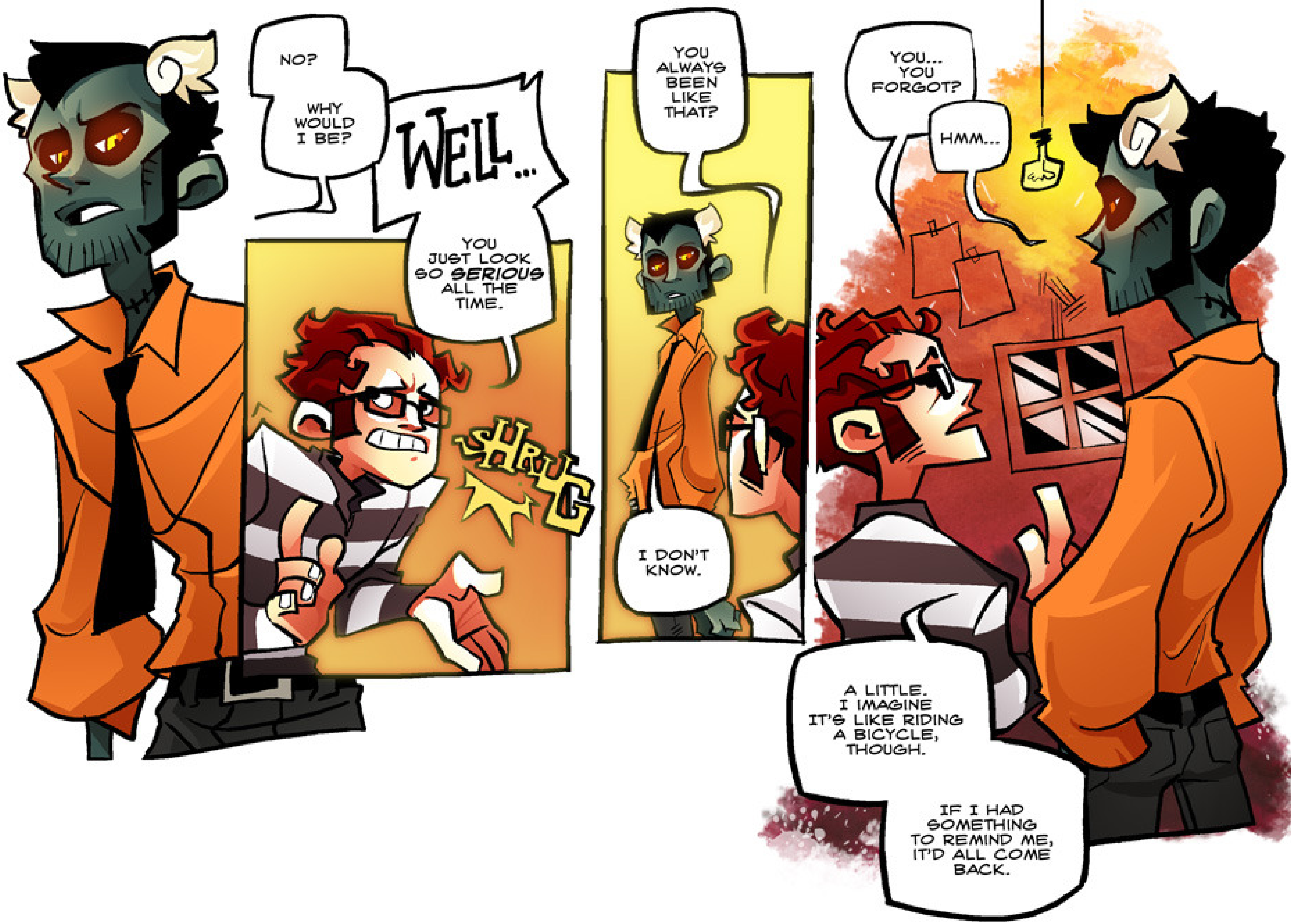

NO.
WELL.
MAYBE.
a little.
OR A LOT?
Sigh
I WANTED TO BE DISCREET.
WHAT THE HEL
IS THAT GUY GREEN?
STUPID
WHAT IS GOING ON?
HE LOOKS DEAD.
IS THAT HANNA?
LWAYS KE THIS
WHO THE HELL...
OH, DON'T WORRY. WEIRD PEOPLE COME THROUGH HERE ALL THE TIME, SO...
OK. COME IN.
THAT'S COOL.
fwmp

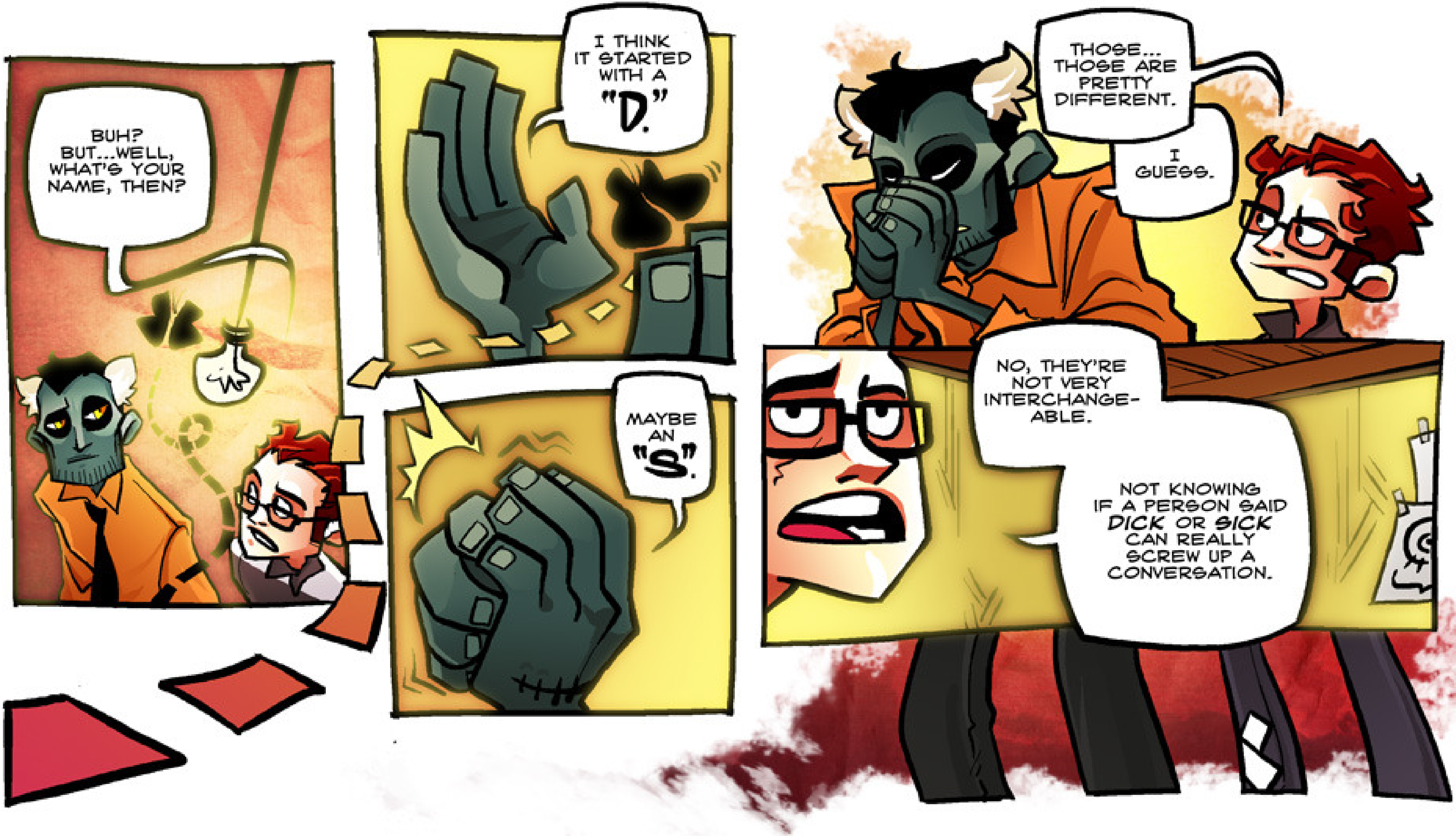

WOW.
I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START. I'VE HEARD STORIES ABOUT SUCCESSFUL RESSURECTION, BUT--
IT'S OK.
I'VE JUST SPENT A LOT OF TIME THINKING. NOW...
R.I.P.
I DIDN'T COME SO I COULD BE ALIVE AGAIN.
...NOW I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHERE ELSE TO GO.

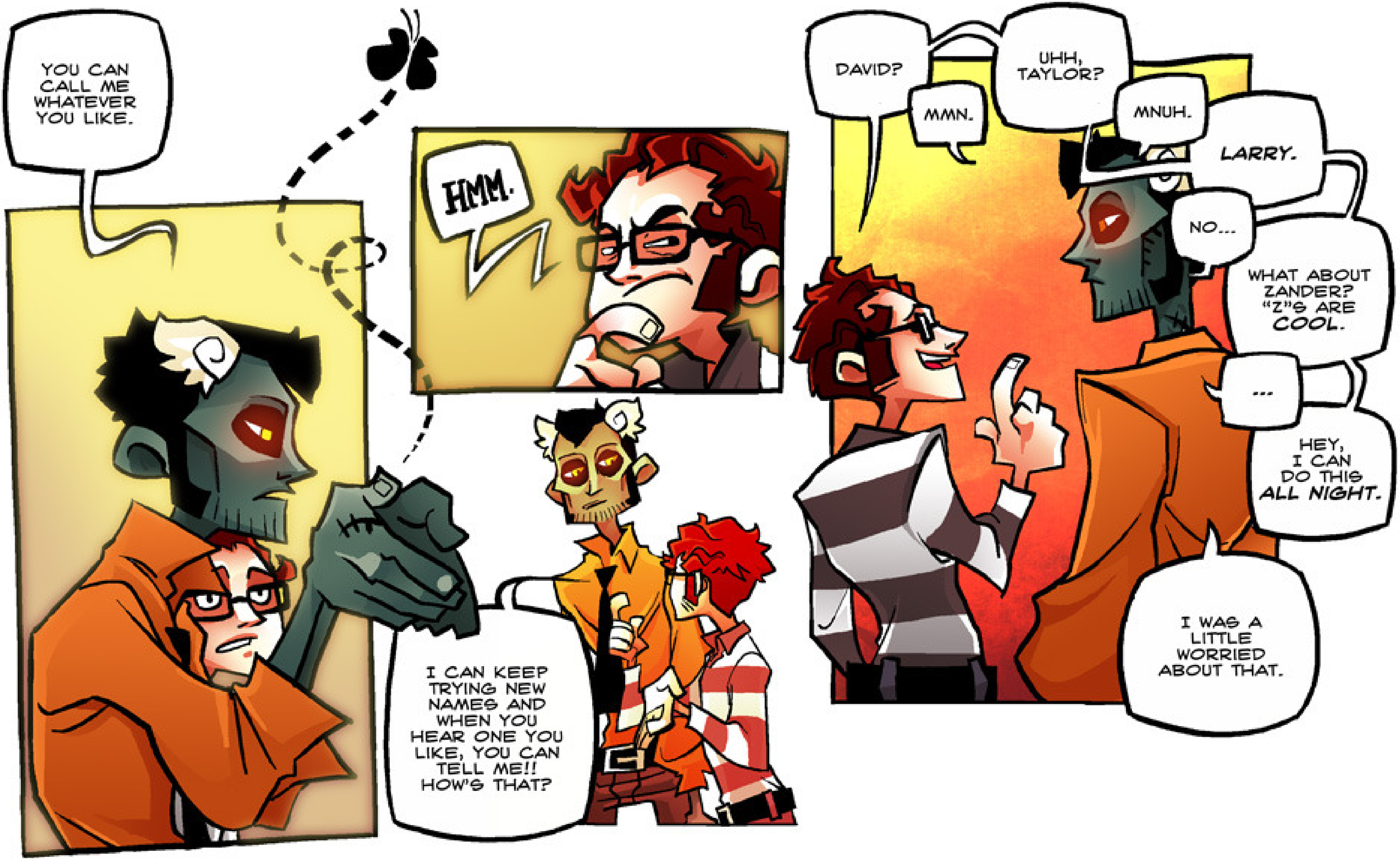

PARANORMAL INVESTIGATOR
IT DOES SAY YOU'RE A PARA-NORMAL INVESTIGATOR ON YOUR CARD.
WHOA! WHERE DID YOU EVEN GET THIS?!
I FOR-GOT.
ARE YOU HIRING, THEN?
HI-HU?
YES!
F#*K YES.
I KNEW THE "BUSINESS" WAS anything but booming, but it seemed like a GOOD IDEA at the time &HEY-

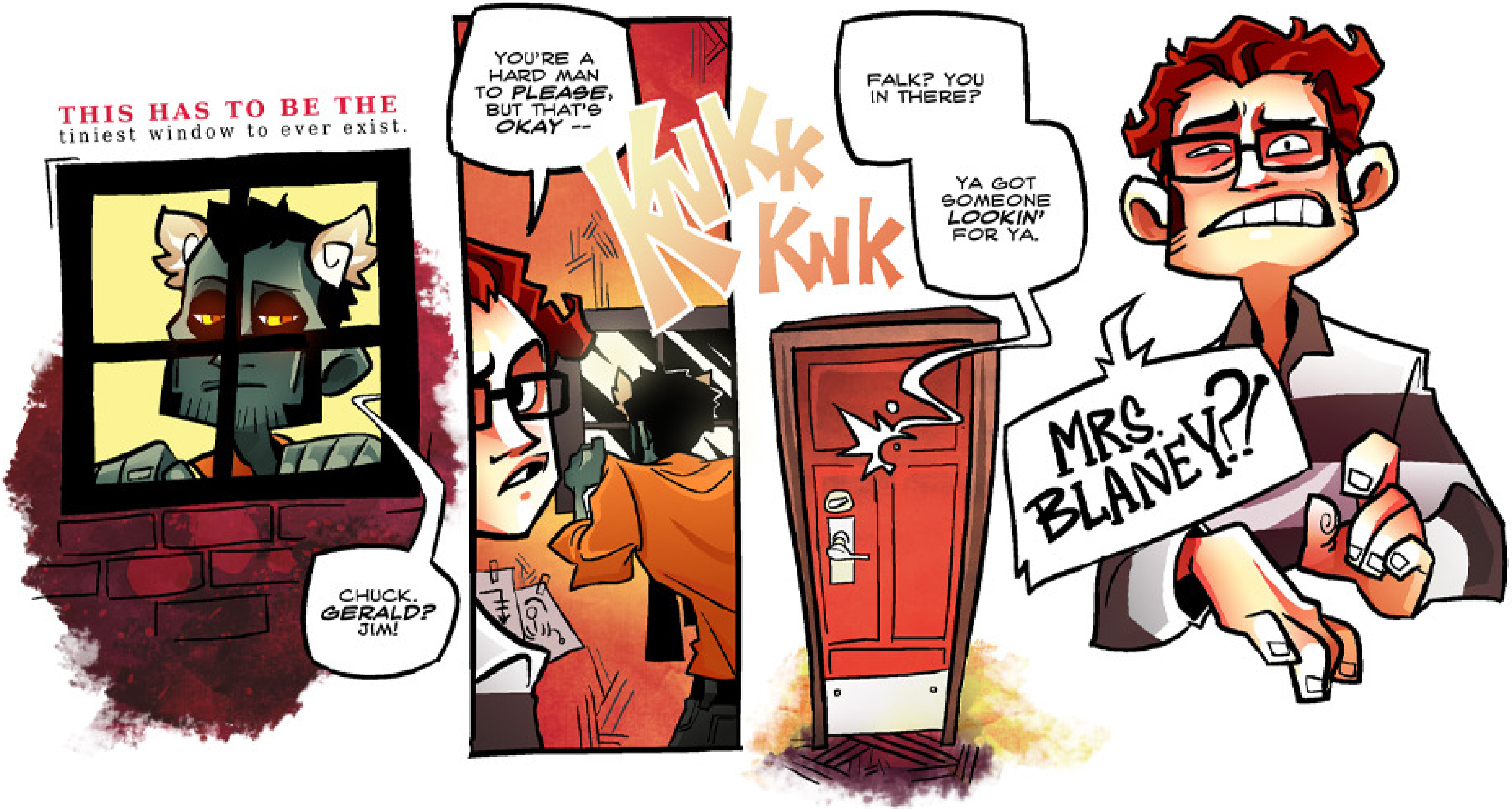
IT ACTUALLY WAS.

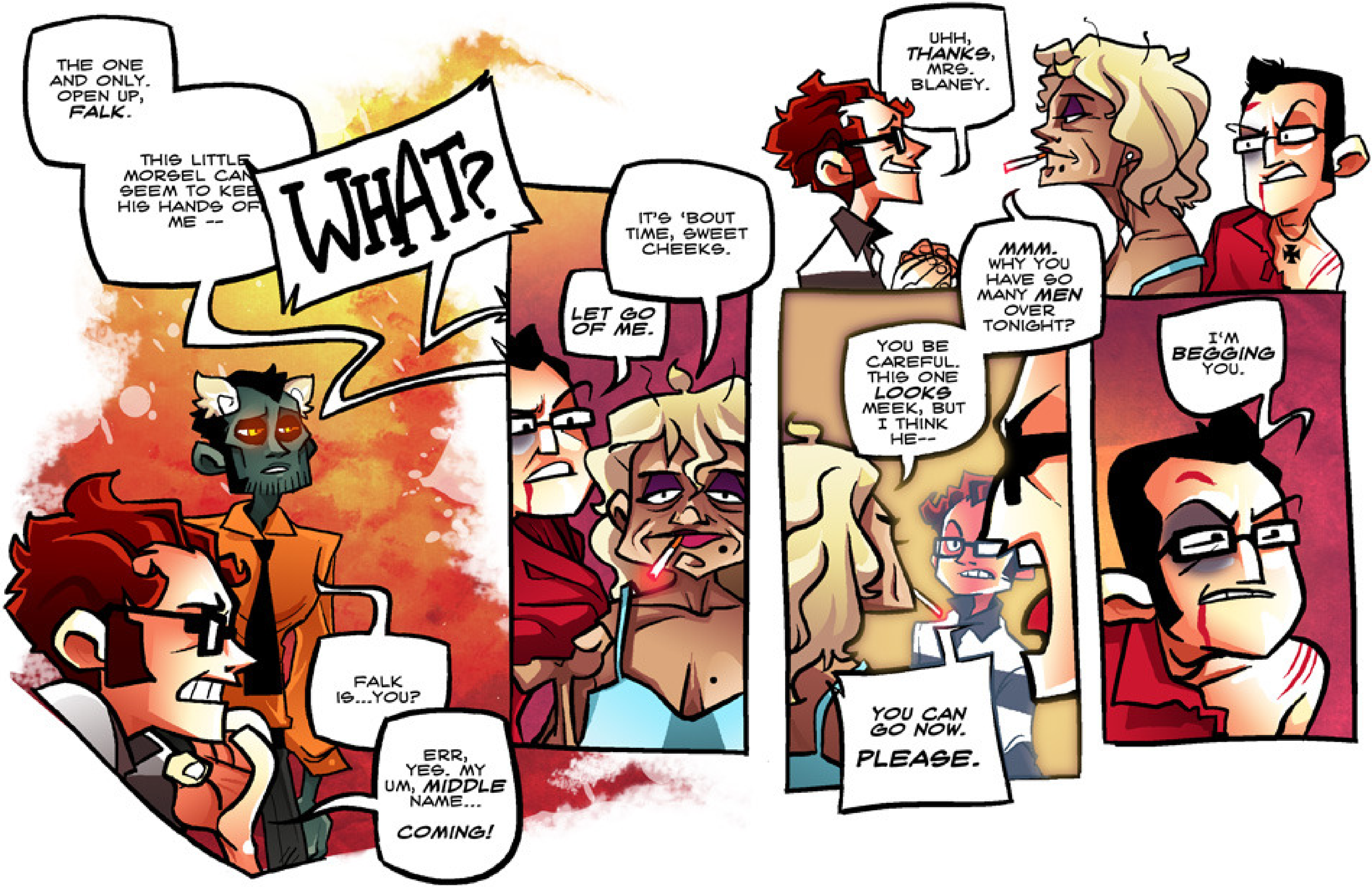

OK!
THIS IS OUR OFFICE! ANNND-
TOUR'S OVER!!
YOUR ENTHUSIASM MAKES IT ODDLY COMPELLING.
...I'M REALLY EXCITED ABOUT THIS, ACTUALLY.
ME TOO!
WAIT.
ARE YOU BEING FACETIOUS?

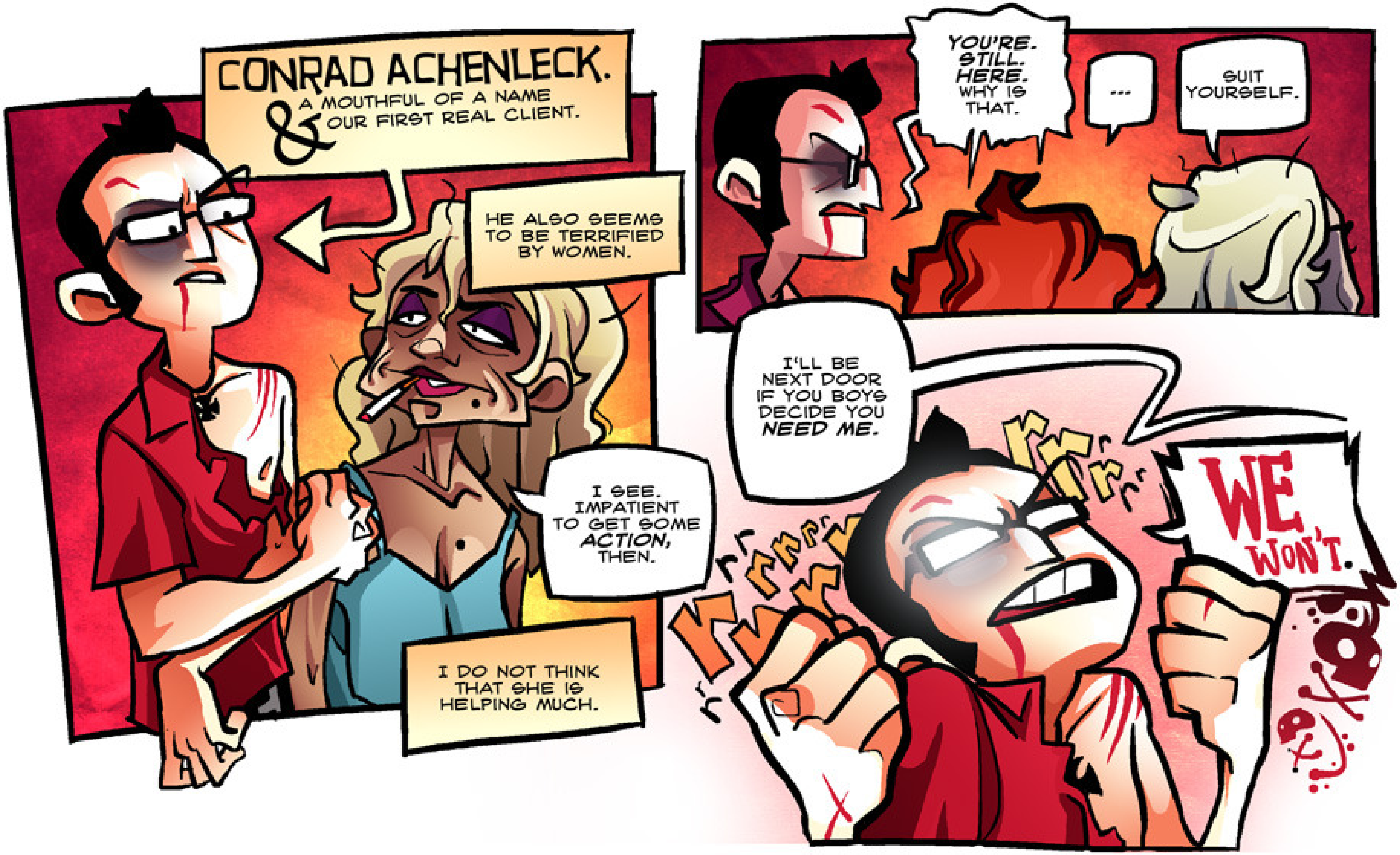

NO?
WHY WOULD I BE?
WELL...
YOU JUST LOOK SO SERIOUS ALL THE TIME.
SHRUG
YOU ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THAT?
I DON'T KNOW.
YOU... YOU FORGOT?
HMM...
A LITTLE. I IMAGINE IT'S LIKE RIDING A BICYCLE, THOUGH.
IF I HAD SOMETHING TO REMIND ME, IT'D ALL COME BACK.

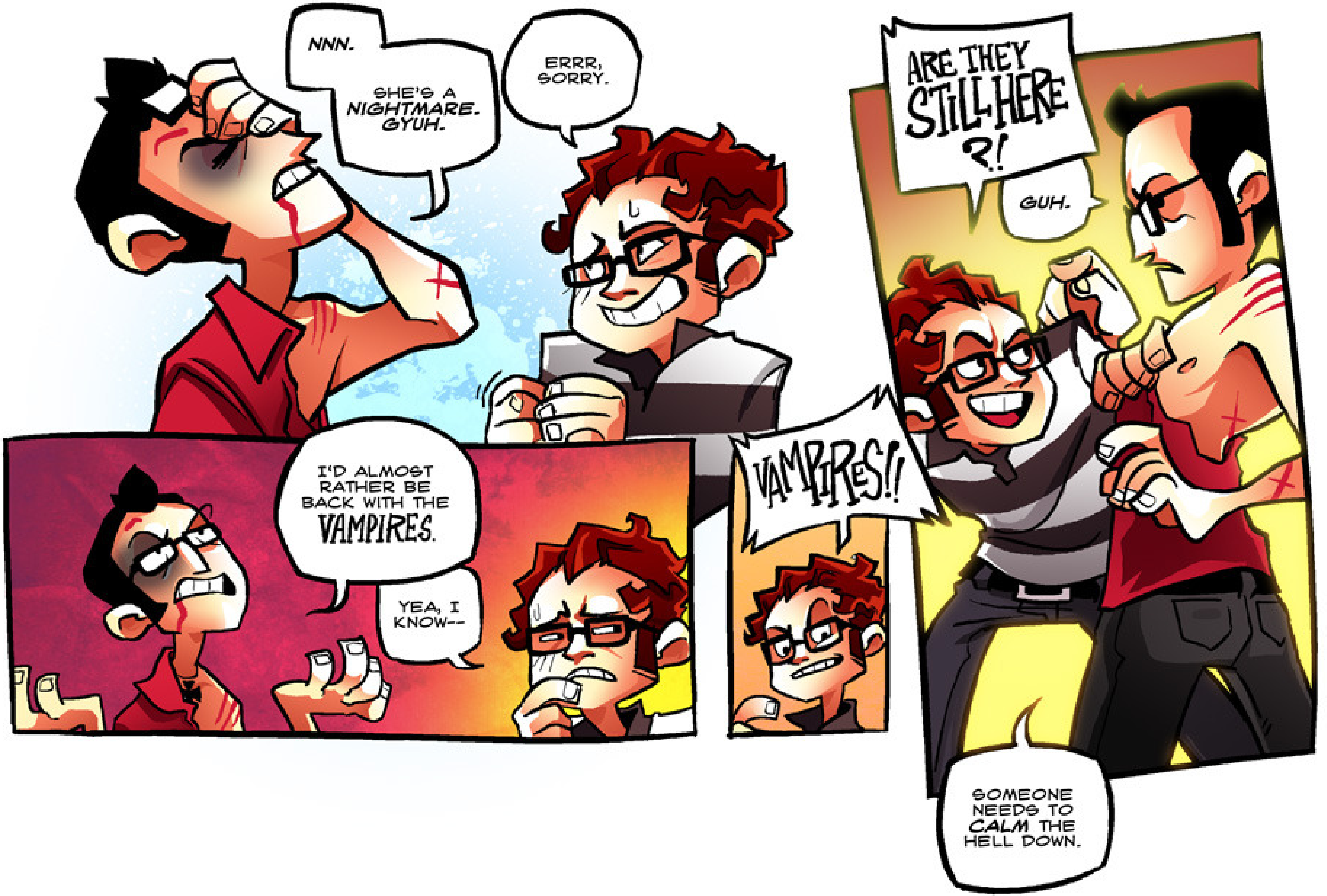

BUH? BUT...WELL, WHAT'S YOUR NAME, THEN?
I THINK IT STARTED WITH A "D."
MAYBE AN "S".
THOSE... THOSE ARE PRETTY DIFFERENT.
I GUESS.
NO, THEY'RE NOT VERY INTERCHANGEABLE.
NOT KNOWING IF A PERSON SAID *DICK* OR *SICK* CAN REALLY SCREW UP A CONVERSATION.

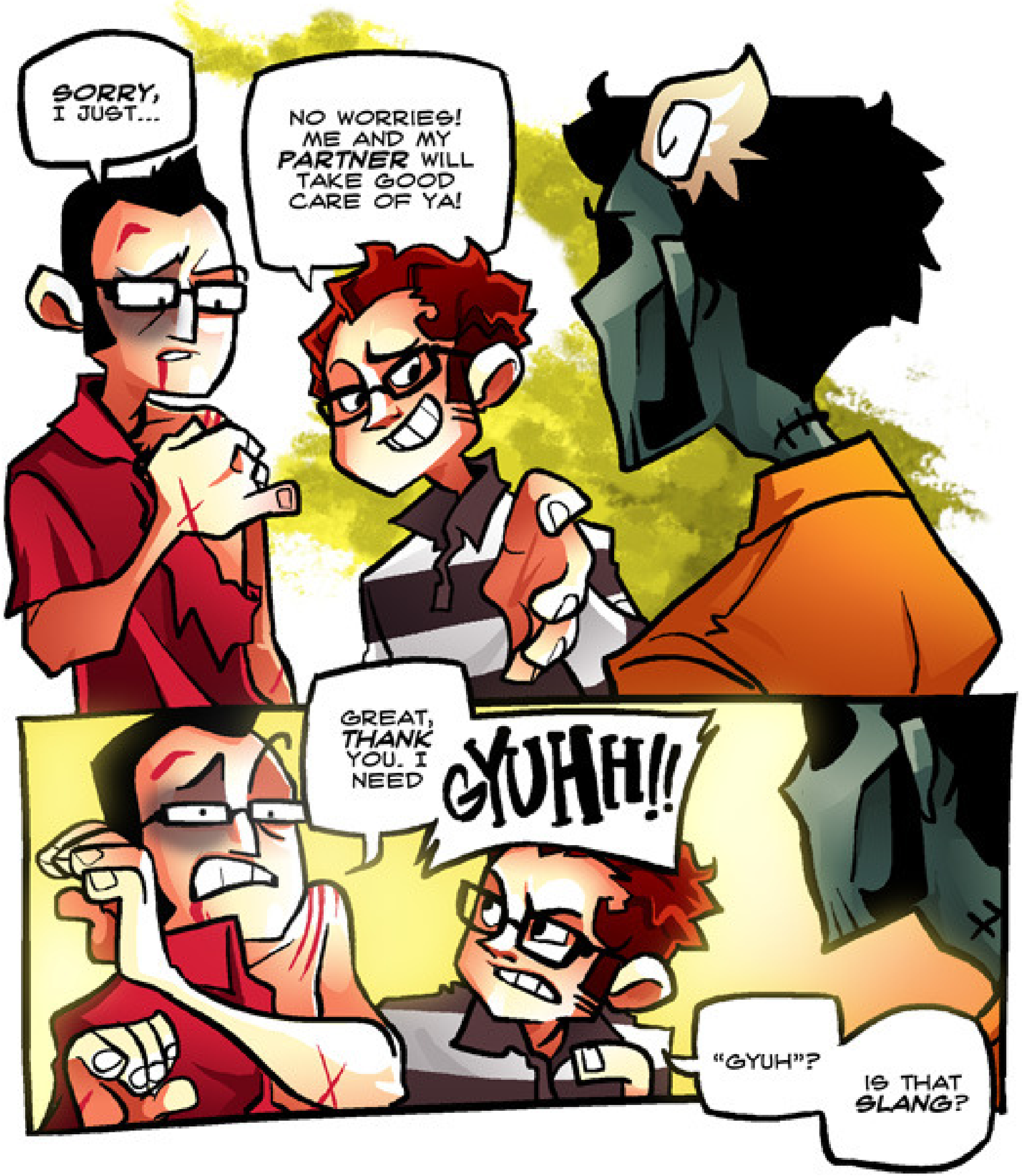

YOU CAN CALL ME WHATEVER YOU LIKE.
HMM.
I CAN KEEP TRYING NEW NAMES AND WHEN YOU HEAR ONE YOU LIKE, YOU CAN TELL ME!! HOW'S THAT?
DAVID?
MMN.
UHH, TAYLOR?
MNUH.
LARRY.
NO...
WHAT ABOUT ZANDER? "Z"S ARE COOL.
...
HEY, I CAN DO THIS ALL NIGHT.
I WAS A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT THAT.

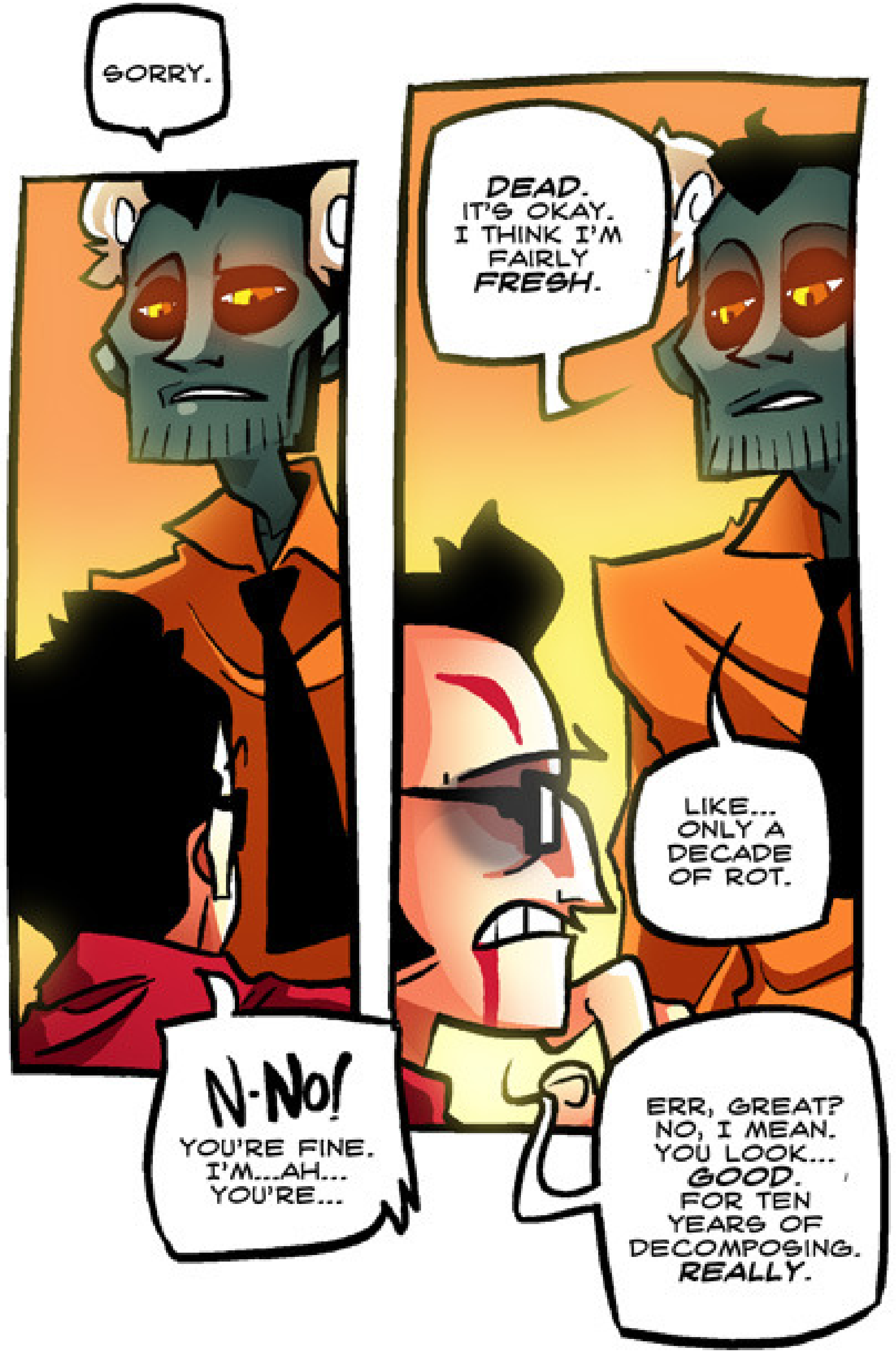

THIS HAS TO BE THE tiniest window to ever exist.
CHUCK. GERALD? JIM!
YOU'RE A HARD MAN TO PLEASE, BUT THAT'S OKAY --
KNKK KWK
FALK? YOU IN THERE?
YA GOT SOMEONE LOOKIN' FOR YA.
MRS. BLANEY?!

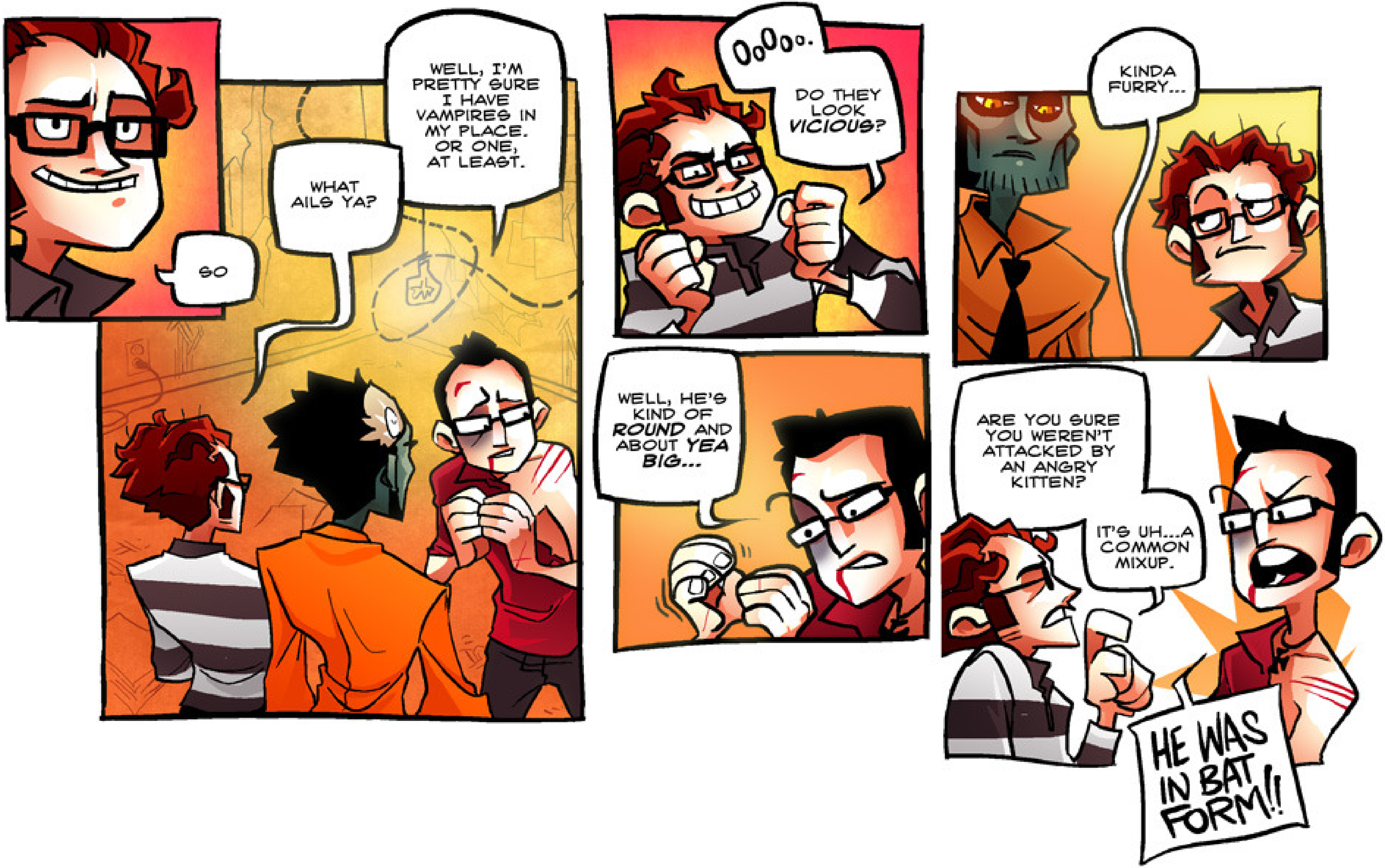

THE ONE AND ONLY. OPEN UP, *FALK*.
THIS LITTLE MORSEL CAN SEEM TO KEE HIS HANDS OF ME --
WHAT?
FALK IS...YOU?
ERR, YES. MY UM, *MIDDLE* NAME... *COMING!*
IT'S 'BOUT TIME, SWEET CHEEKS.
LET GO OF ME.
UHH, *THANKS*, MRS. BLANEY.
MMM. WHY YOU HAVE SO MANY *MEN* OVER TONIGHT?
YOU BE CAREFUL. THIS ONE *LOOKS* MEEK, BUT I THINK HE--
YOU CAN GO NOW. **PLEASE.**
I'M *BEGGING* YOU.

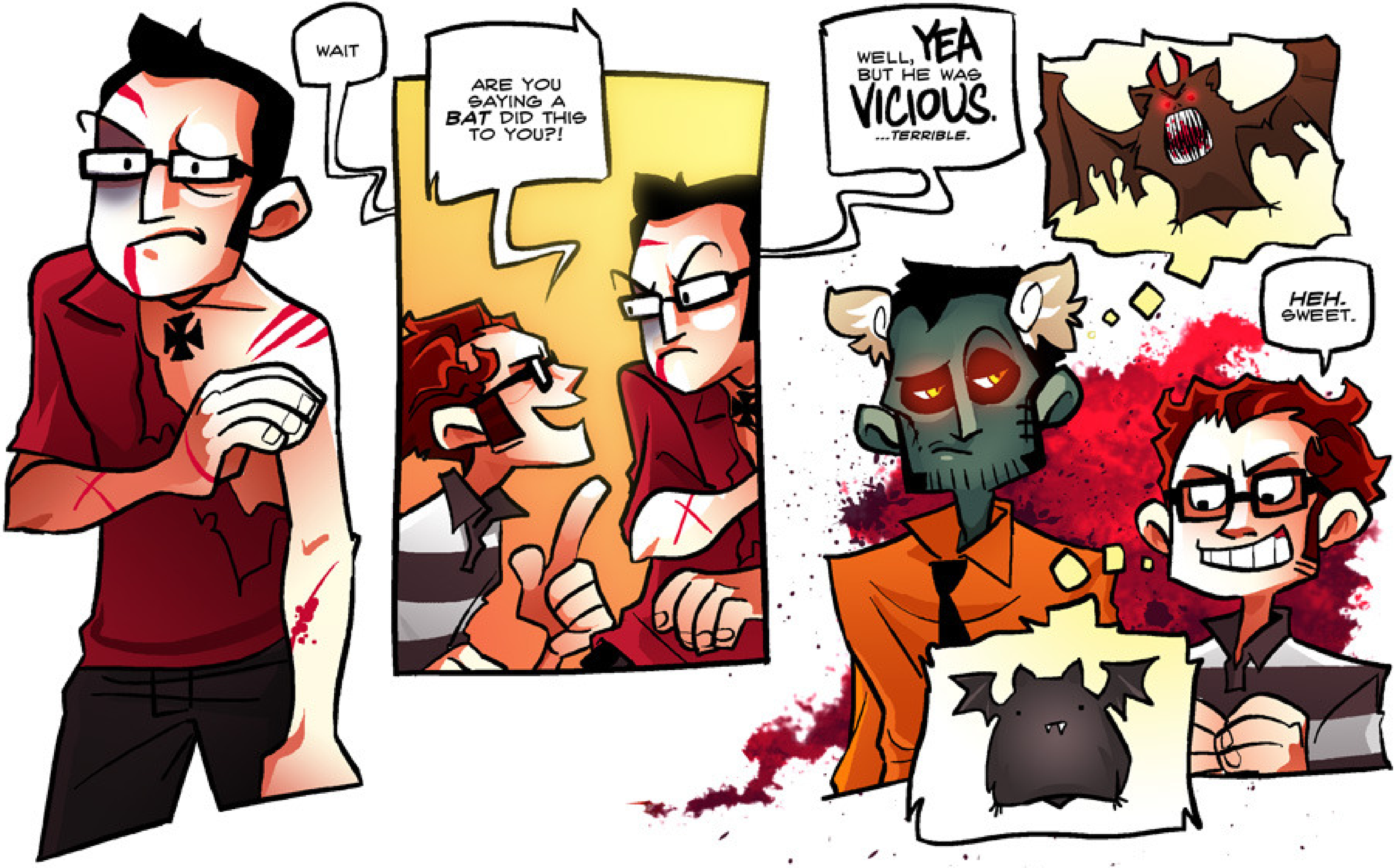

CONRAD ACHENLECK.
& A MOUTHFUL OF A NAME OUR FIRST REAL CLIENT.
HE ALSO SEEMS TO BE TERRIFIED BY WOMEN.
I SEE. IMPATIENT TO GET SOME *ACTION,* THEN.
I DO NOT THINK THAT SHE IS HELPING MUCH.
YOU'RE. STILL. HERE. WHY IS THAT.
...
SUIT YOURSELF.
I'LL BE NEXT DOOR IF YOU BOYS DECIDE YOU *NEED ME.*
WE WON'T.

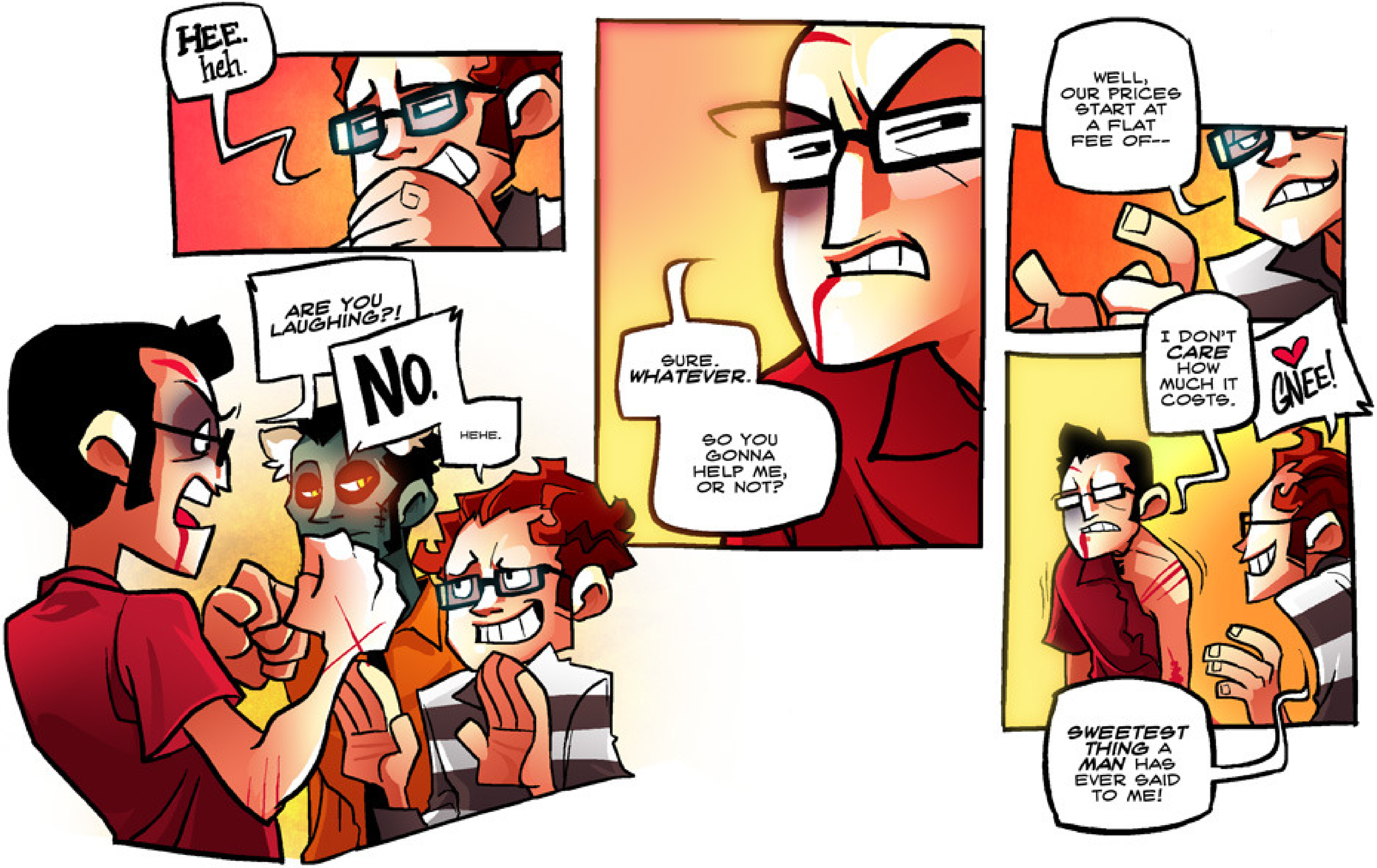

NNN.
SHE'S A *NIGHTMARE*. GYUH.
ERRR, SORRY.
I'D ALMOST RATHER BE BACK WITH THE VAMPIRES.
YEA, I KNOW--
VAMPIRES!!
ARE THEY STILL HERE?!
GUH.
SOMEONE NEEDS TO *CALM* THE HELL DOWN.

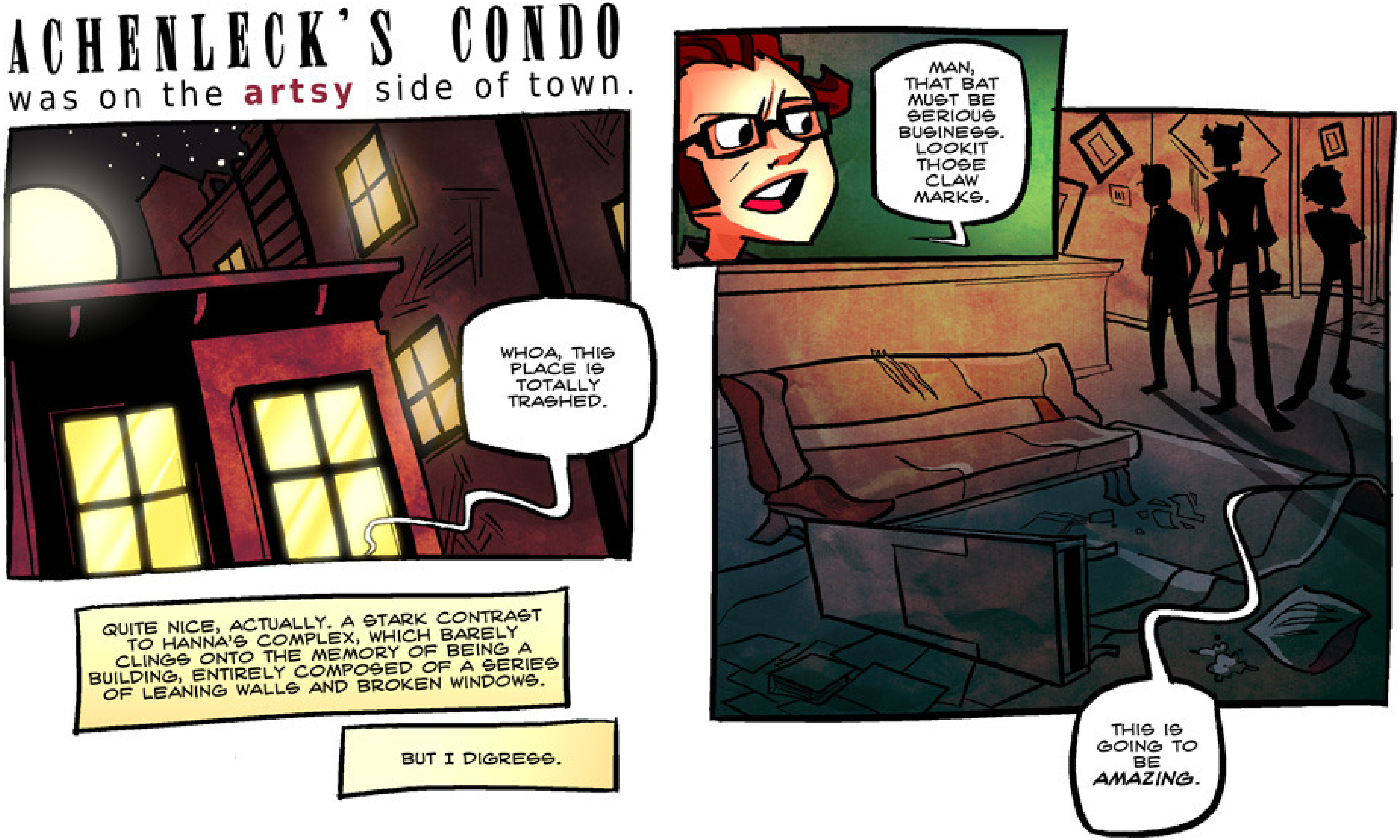

SORRY, I JUST...
NO WORRIES! ME AND MY *PARTNER* WILL TAKE GOOD CARE OF YA!
GREAT, *THANK* YOU. I NEED
GYUHH!!
"GYUH"?
IS THAT *SLANG*?

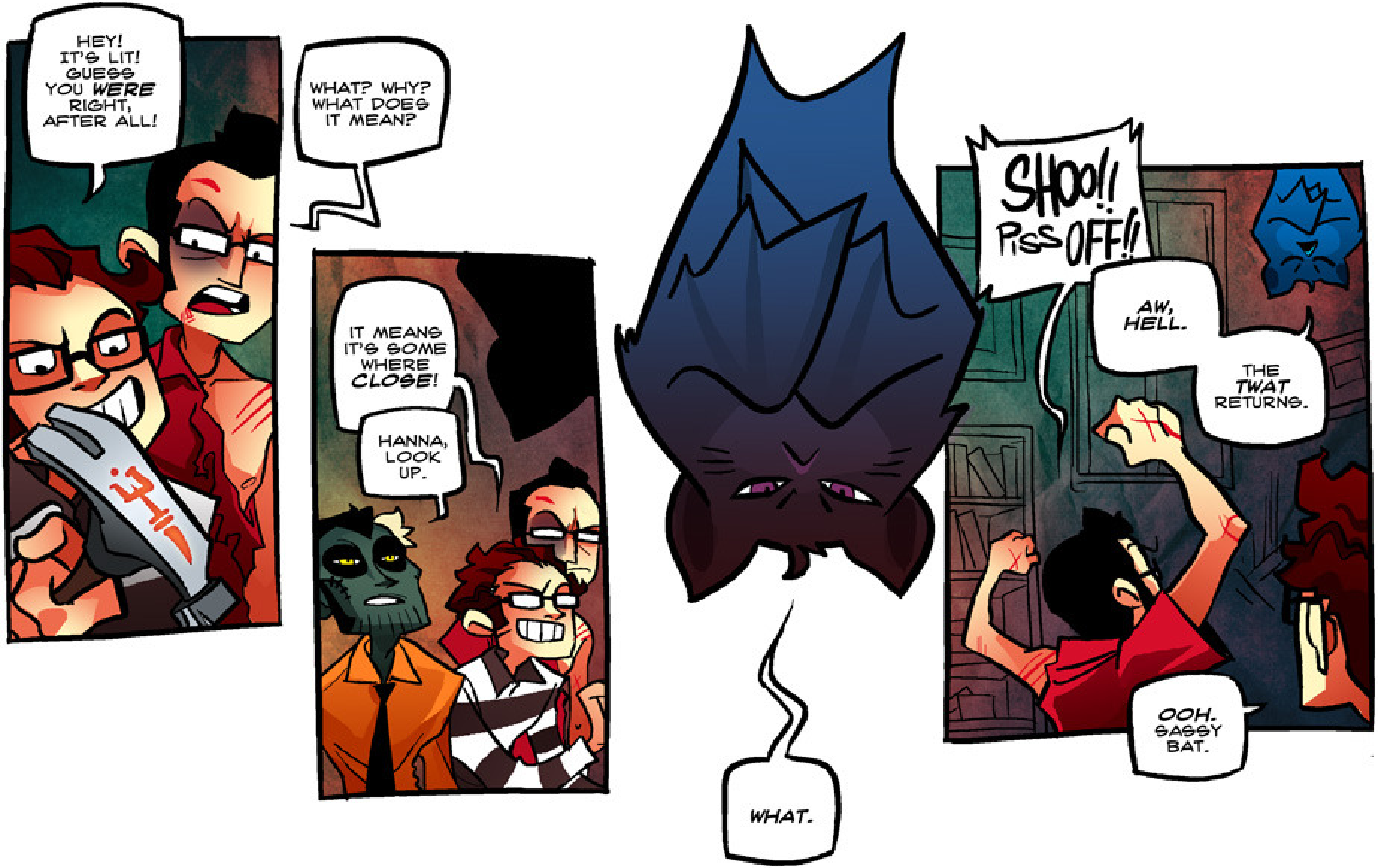

SORRY.
N-NO! YOU'RE FINE. I'M...AH... YOU'RE...
DEAD. IT'S OKAY. I THINK I'M FAIRLY *FRESH*.
LIKE... ONLY A DECADE OF ROT.
ERR, GREAT? NO, I MEAN. YOU LOOK... *GOOD*. FOR TEN YEARS OF DECOMPOSING. *REALLY*.

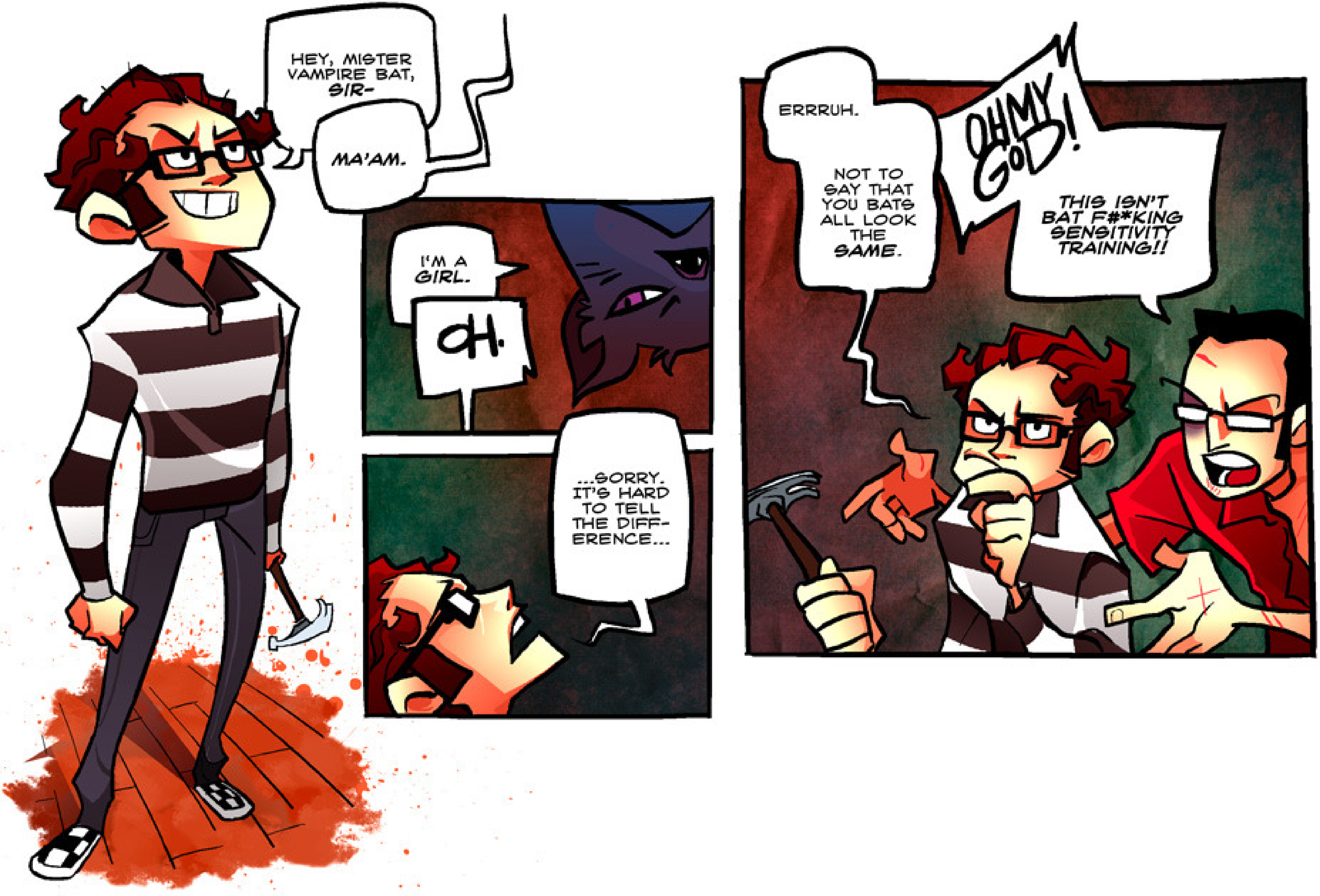

SO
WHAT AILS YA?
WELL, I'M PRETTY SURE I HAVE VAMPIRES IN MY PLACE. OR ONE, AT LEAST.
OoOoo.
DO THEY LOOK *VICIOUS*?
WELL, HE'S KIND OF *ROUND* AND ABOUT *YEA BIG*...
KINDA FURRY...
ARE YOU SURE YOU WEREN'T ATTACKED BY AN ANGRY KITTEN?
IT'S UH...A COMMON MIXUP.
HE WAS IN BAT FORM!!

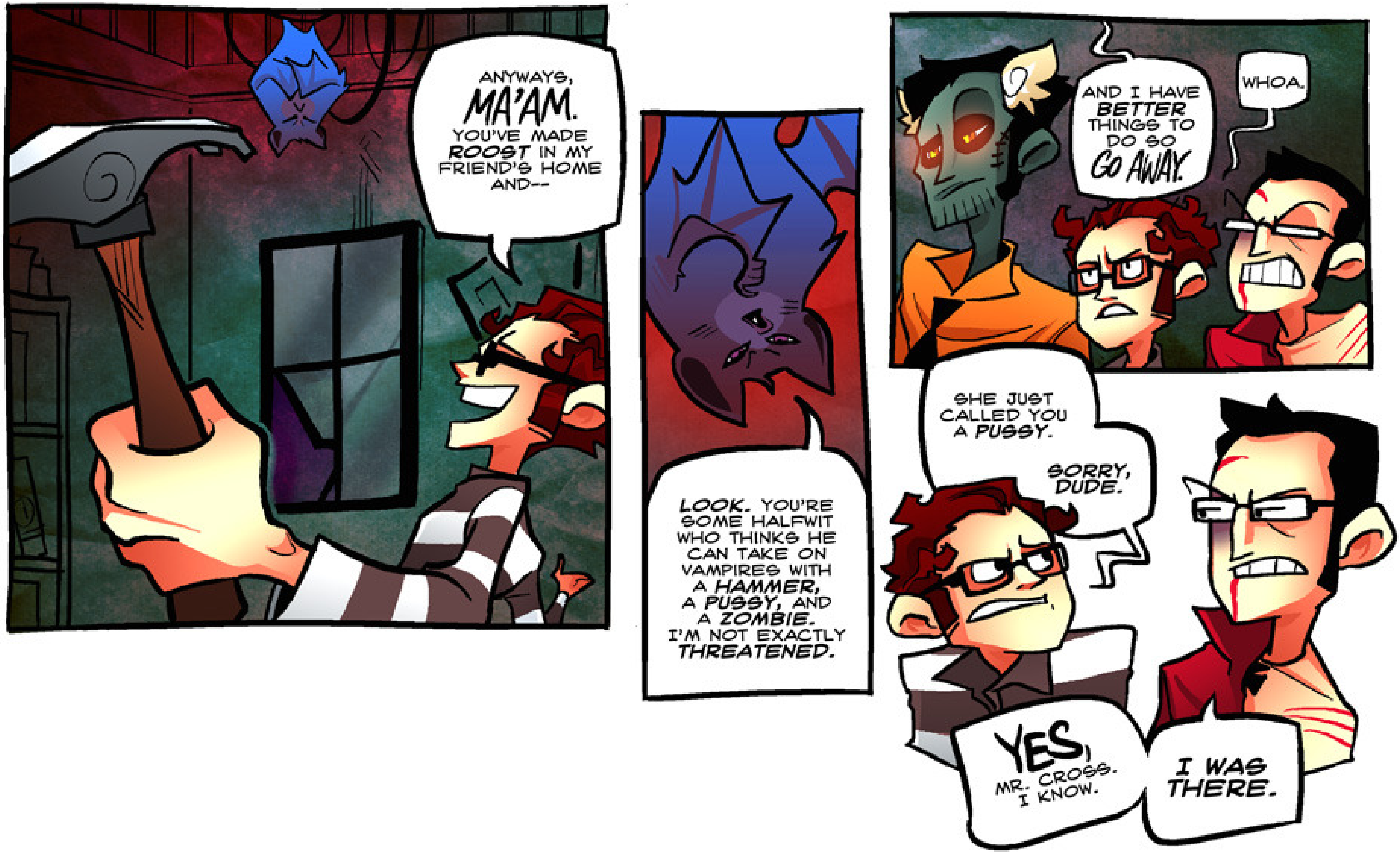

WAIT
ARE YOU SAYING A BAT DID THIS TO YOU?!
WELL, YEA BUT HE WAS VICIOUS. ...TERRIBLE.
HEH. SWEET.

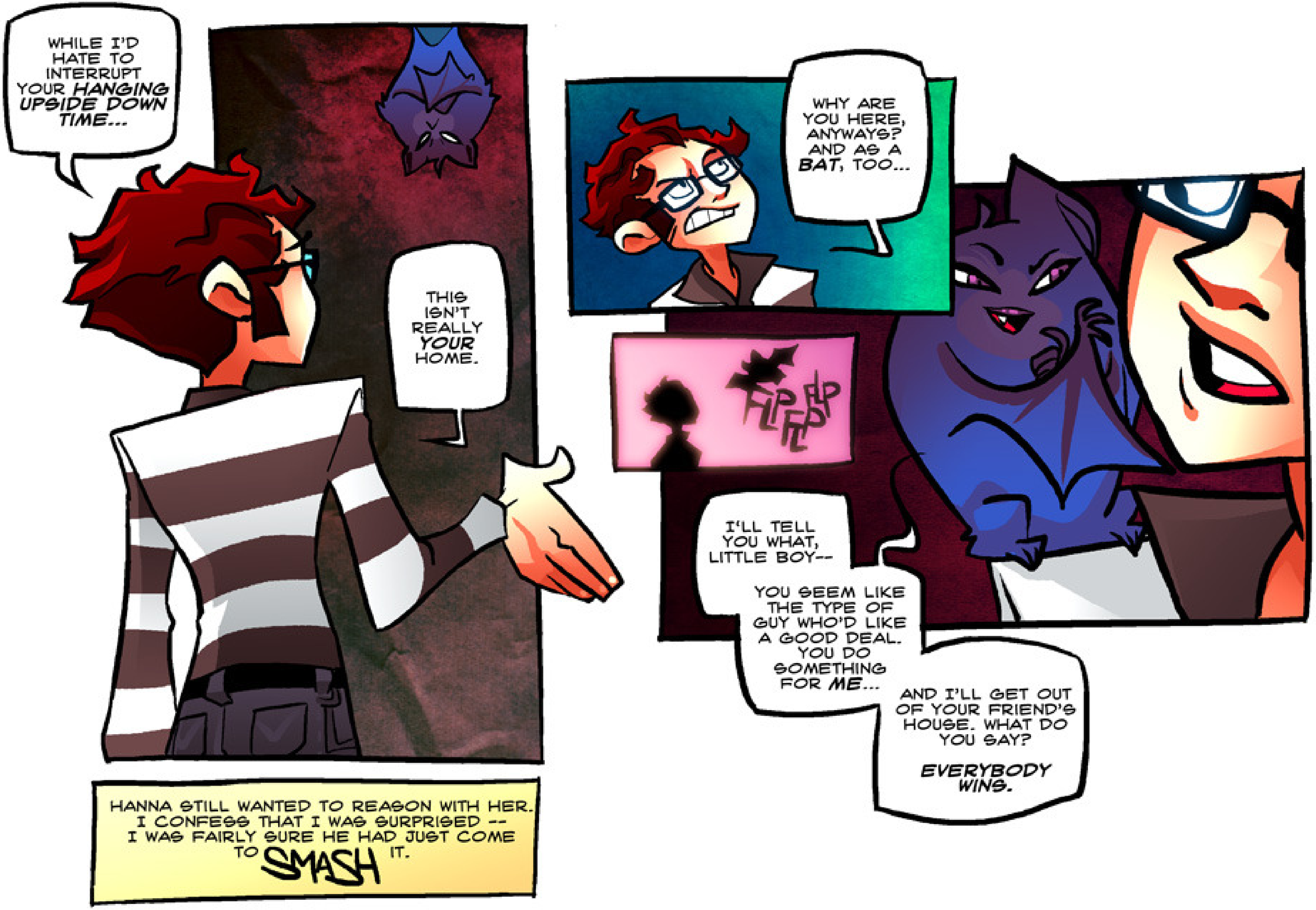

HEE. heh.
ARE YOU LAUGHING?!
NO.
HEHE.
SURE. *WHATEVER.*
SO YOU GONNA HELP ME, OR NOT?
WELL, OUR PRICES START AT A FLAT FEE OF--
I DON'T *CARE* HOW MUCH IT COSTS.
GNEE!
SWEETEST THING A *MAN* HAS EVER SAID TO ME!

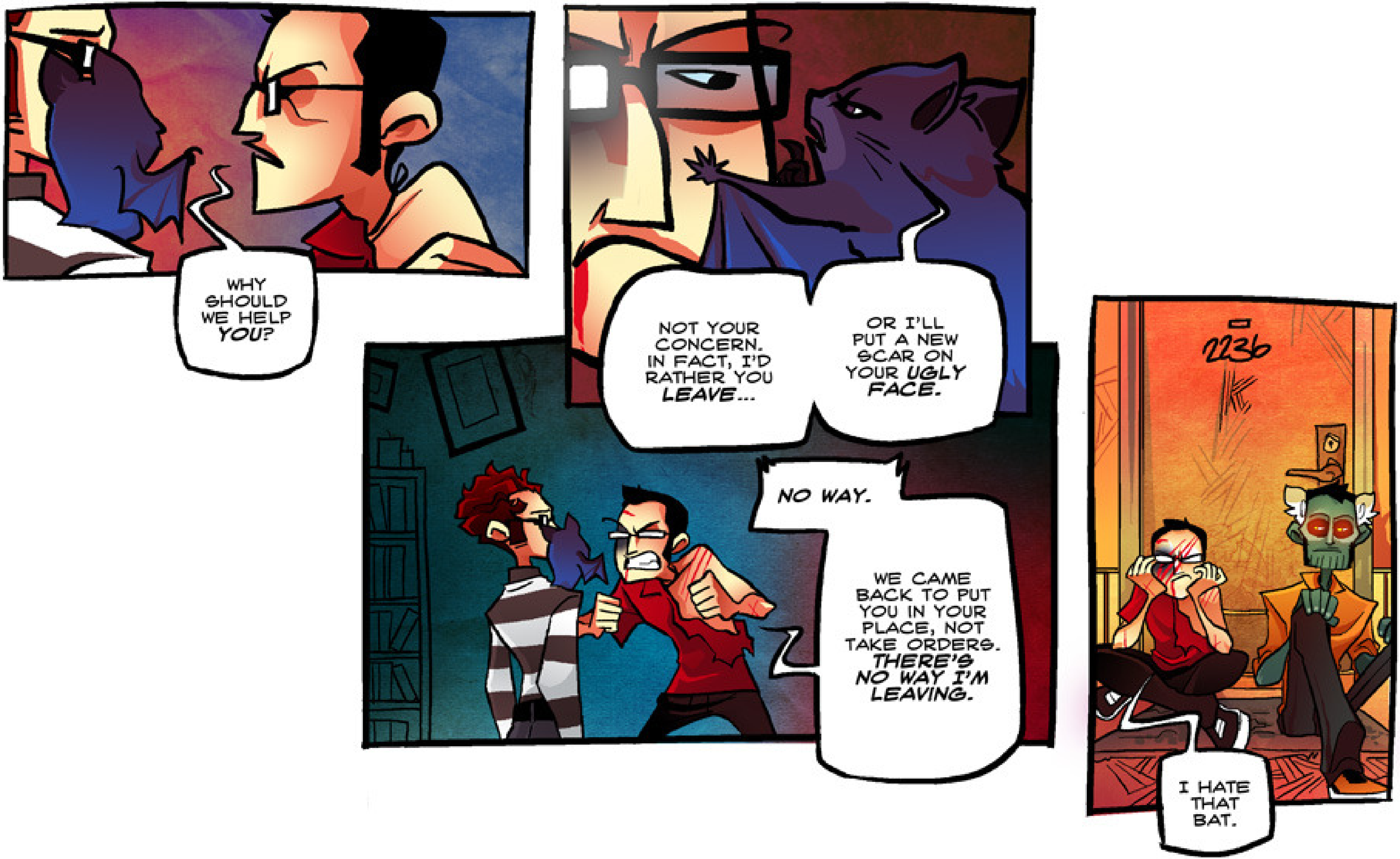

ACHENLECK'S CONDO
was on the artsy side of town.
WHOA, THIS PLACE IS TOTALLY TRASHED.
QUITE NICE, ACTUALLY. A STARK CONTRAST TO HANNA'S COMPLEX, WHICH BARELY CLINGS ONTO THE MEMORY OF BEING A BUILDING, ENTIRELY COMPOSED OF A SERIES OF LEANING WALLS AND BROKEN WINDOWS.
BUT I DIGRESS.
MAN, THAT BAT MUST BE SERIOUS BUSINESS. LOOKIT THOSE CLAW MARKS.
THIS IS GOING TO BE *AMAZING.*

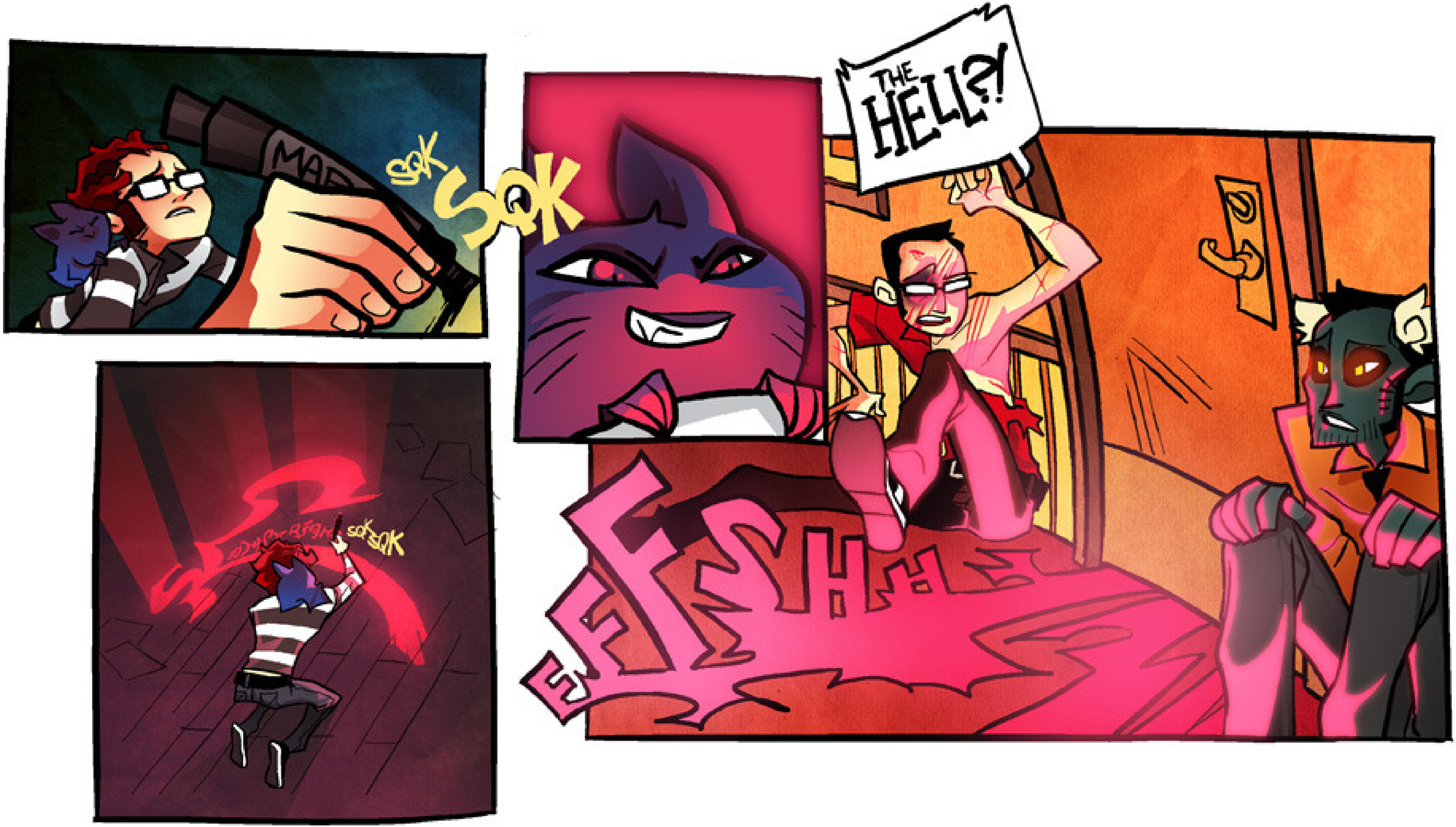

HEY! IT'S LIT! GUESS YOU *WERE* RIGHT, AFTER ALL!
WHAT? WHY? WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
IT MEANS IT'S SOME WHERE *CLOSE!*
HANNA, LOOK UP.
WHAT.
SHOO!! PISS OFF!!
AW, HELL.
THE *TWAT* RETURNS.
OOH. SASSY BAT.

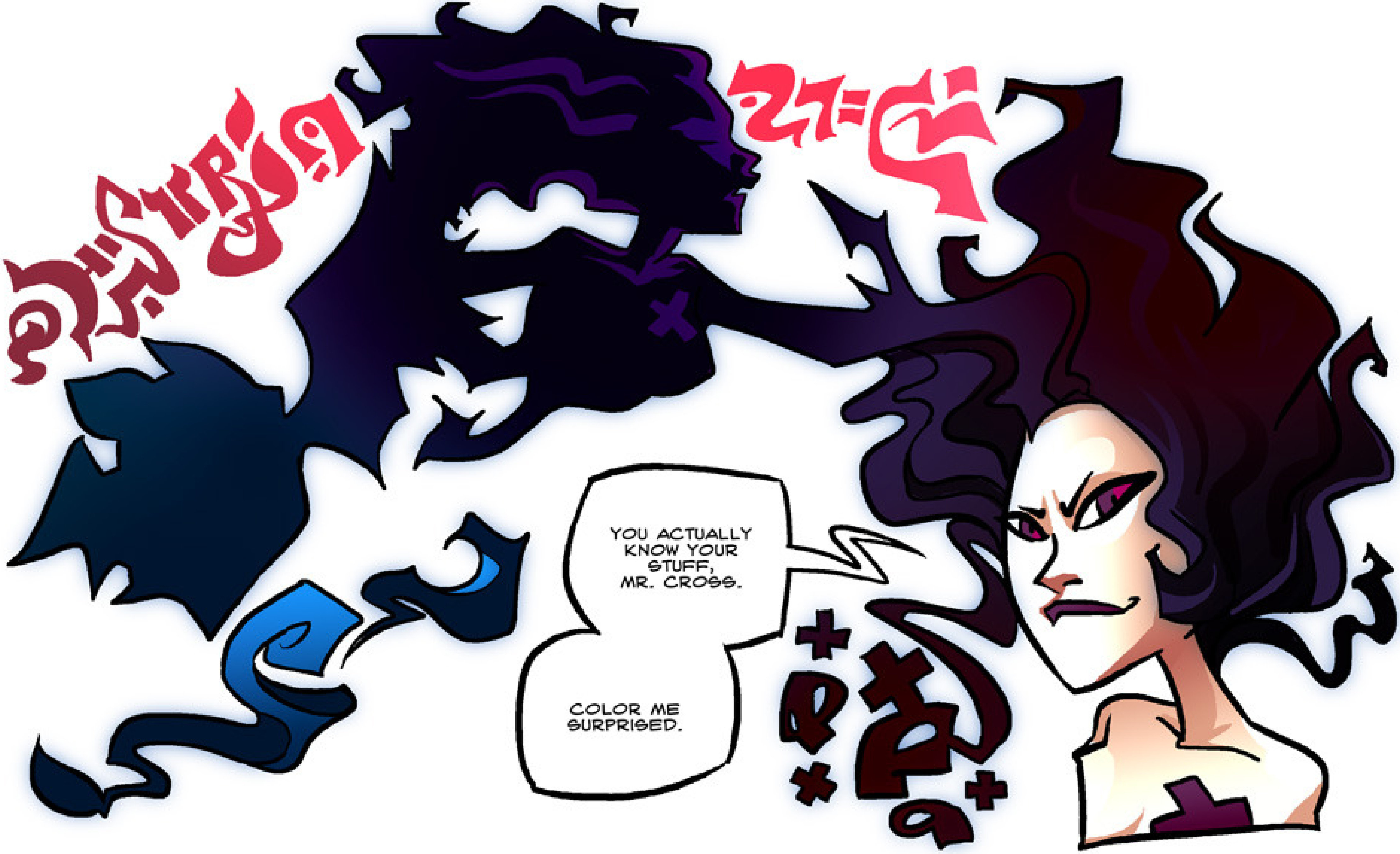

HEY, MISTER VAMPIRE BAT, *SIR*-
MA'AM.
I'M A *GIRL.*
OH.
...SORRY. IT'S HARD TO TELL THE DIFFERENCE...
ERRRUH.
NOT TO SAY THAT YOU BATS ALL LOOK THE *SAME.*
OHMY GOD!
*THIS ISN'T BAT F#*KING SENSITIVITY TRAINING!!*

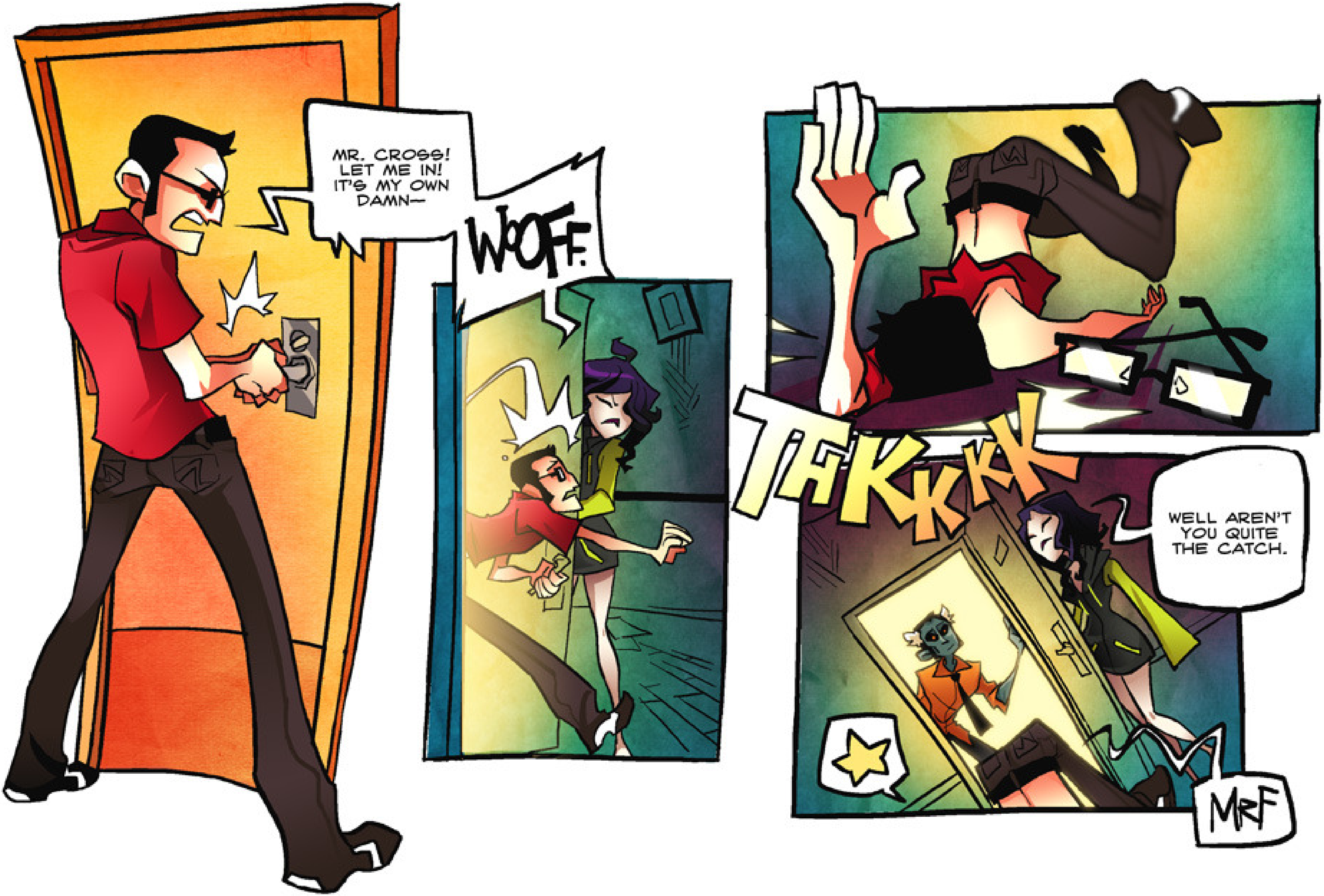

ANYWAYS, MA'AM. YOU'VE MADE ROOST IN MY FRIEND'S HOME AND--
LOOK. YOU'RE SOME HALFWIT WHO THINKS HE CAN TAKE ON VAMPIRES WITH A HAMMER, A PUSSY, AND A ZOMBIE. I'M NOT EXACTLY THREATENED.
AND I HAVE BETTER THINGS TO DO SO GO AWAY.
WHOA.
SHE JUST CALLED YOU A PUSSY.
SORRY, DUDE.
YES, MR. CROSS. I KNOW.
I WAS THERE.

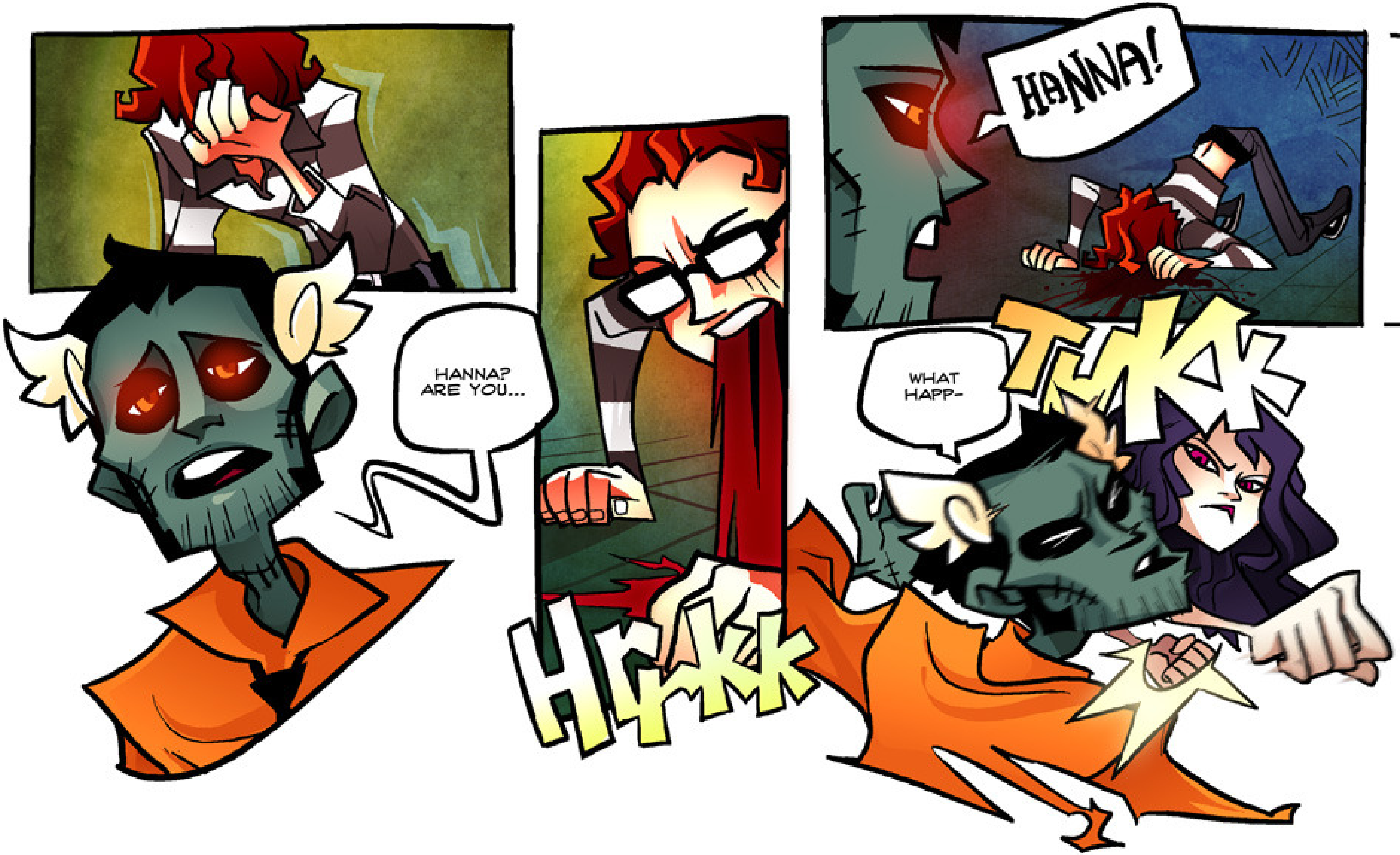

WHILE I'D HATE TO INTERRUPT YOUR *HANGING UPSIDE DOWN TIME*...
THIS ISN'T REALLY *YOUR* HOME.
HANNA STILL WANTED TO REASON WITH HER. I CONFESS THAT I WAS SURPRISED -- I WAS FAIRLY SURE HE HAD JUST COME TO SMASH IT.
WHY ARE YOU HERE, ANYWAYS? AND AS A *BAT*, TOO...
FLIP FLAP FLAP
I'LL TELL YOU WHAT, LITTLE BOY--
YOU SEEM LIKE THE TYPE OF GUY WHO'D LIKE A GOOD DEAL. YOU DO SOMETHING FOR *ME*...
AND I'LL GET OUT OF YOUR FRIEND'S HOUSE. WHAT DO YOU SAY?
EVERYBODY WINS.

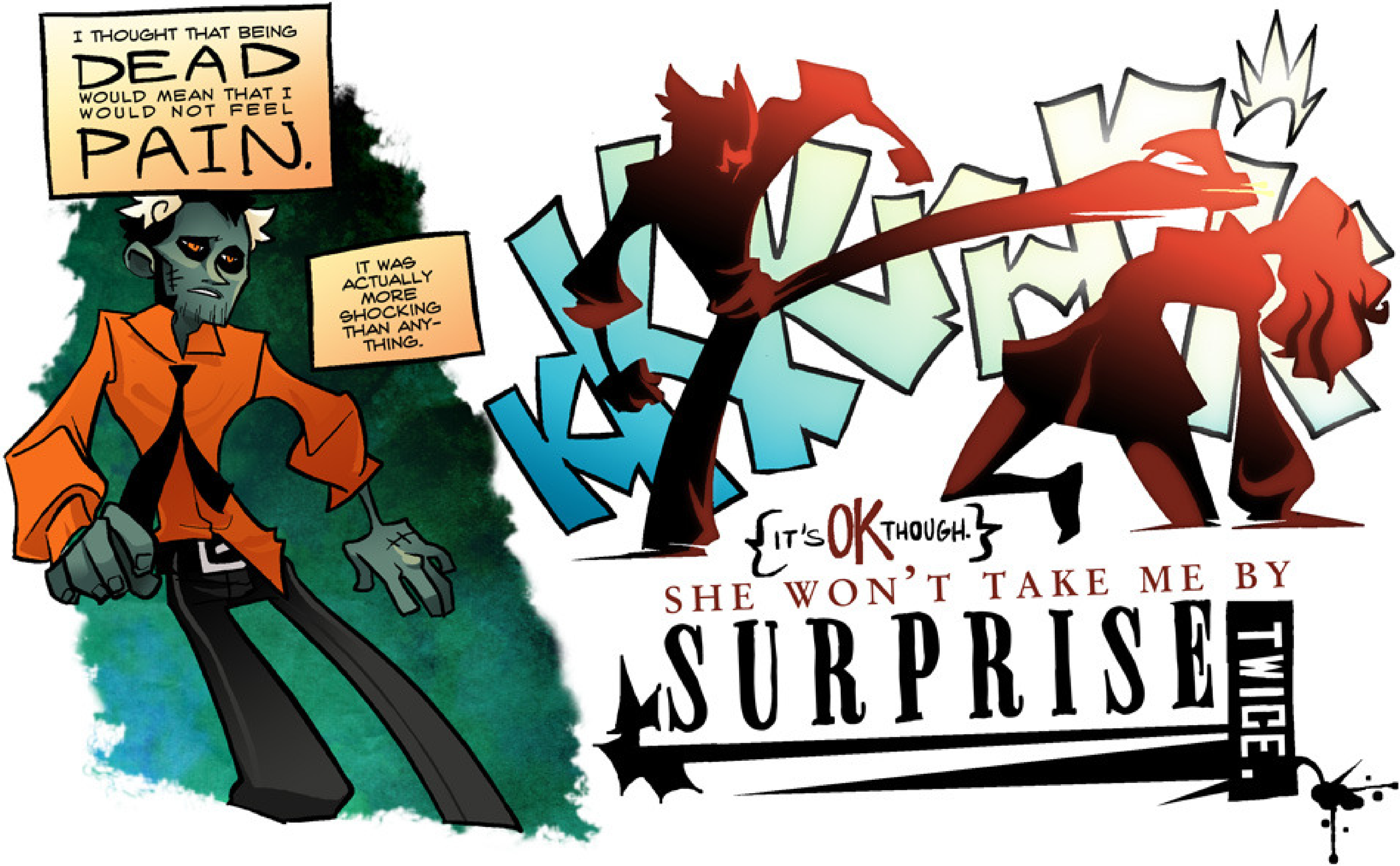

WHY SHOULD WE HELP *YOU?*
NOT YOUR CONCERN. IN FACT, I'D RATHER YOU *LEAVE...*
OR I'LL PUT A NEW SCAR ON YOUR *UGLY FACE.*
NO WAY.
WE CAME BACK TO PUT YOU IN YOUR PLACE, NOT TAKE ORDERS. *THERE'S NO WAY I'M LEAVING.*
2236
I HATE THAT BAT.

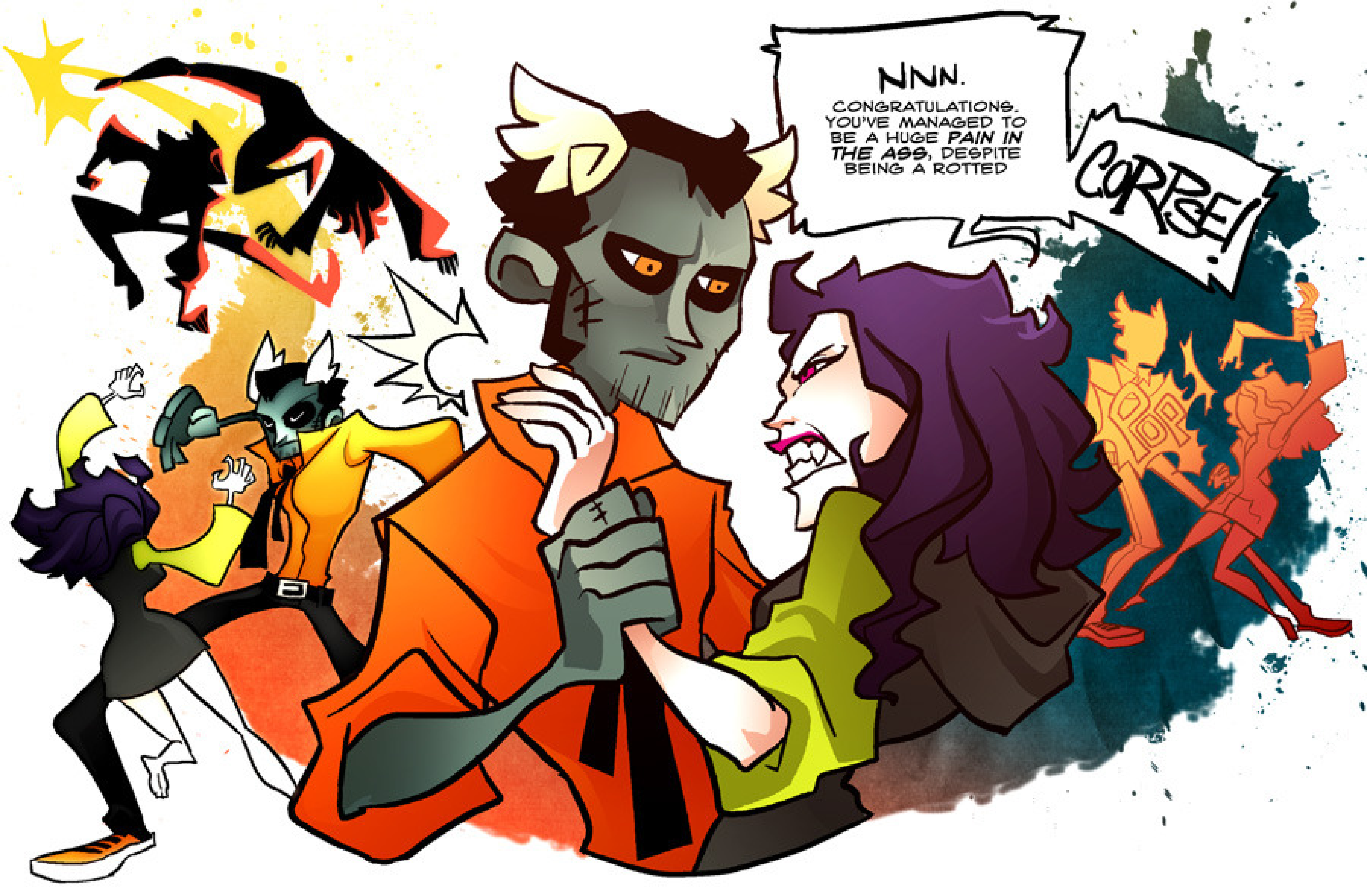

SQK
SQK
MAR
THE HELL?!
sqk SQK
EFFSHH

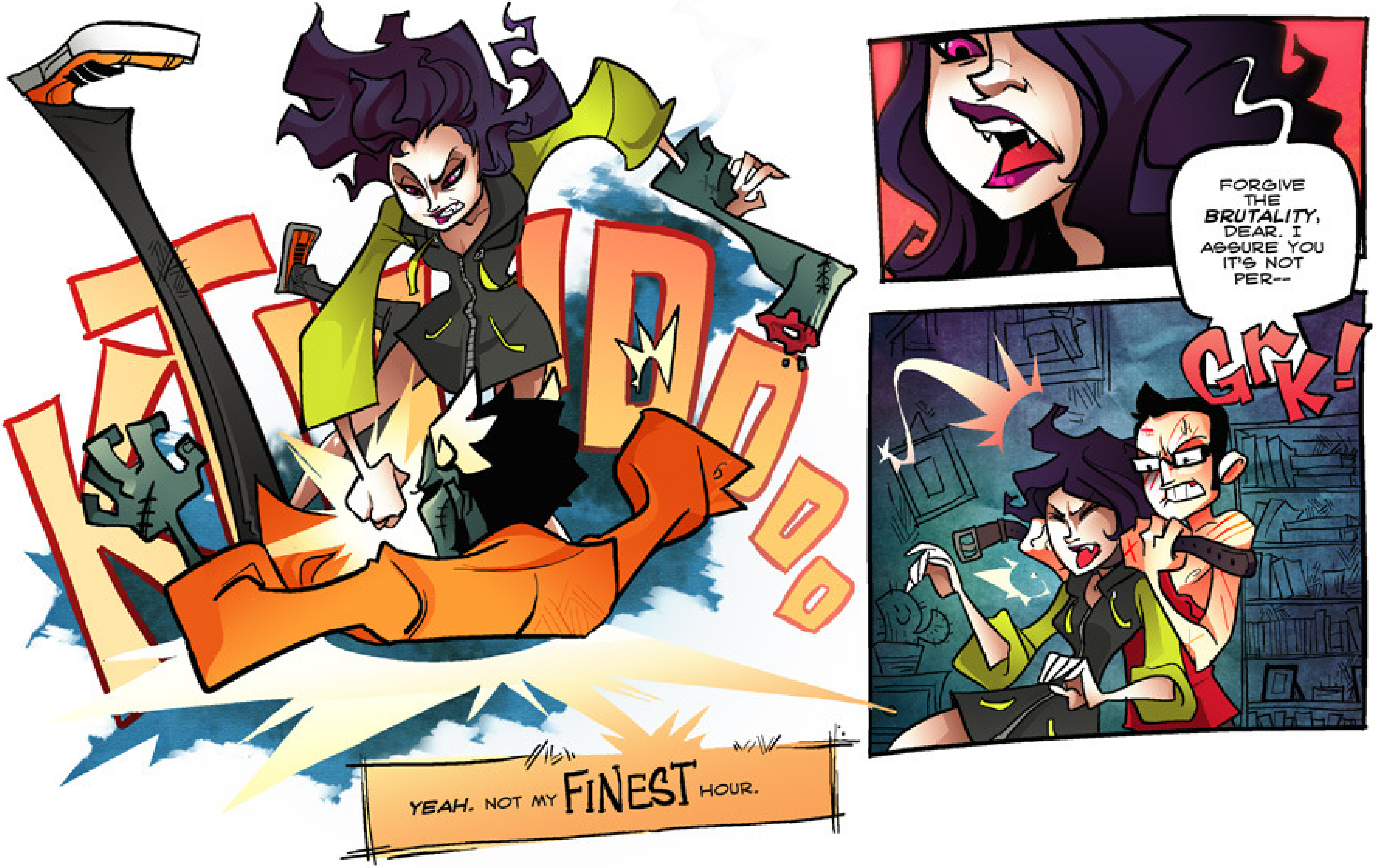

YOU ACTUALLY KNOW YOUR STUFF, MR. CROSS.
COLOR ME SURPRISED.

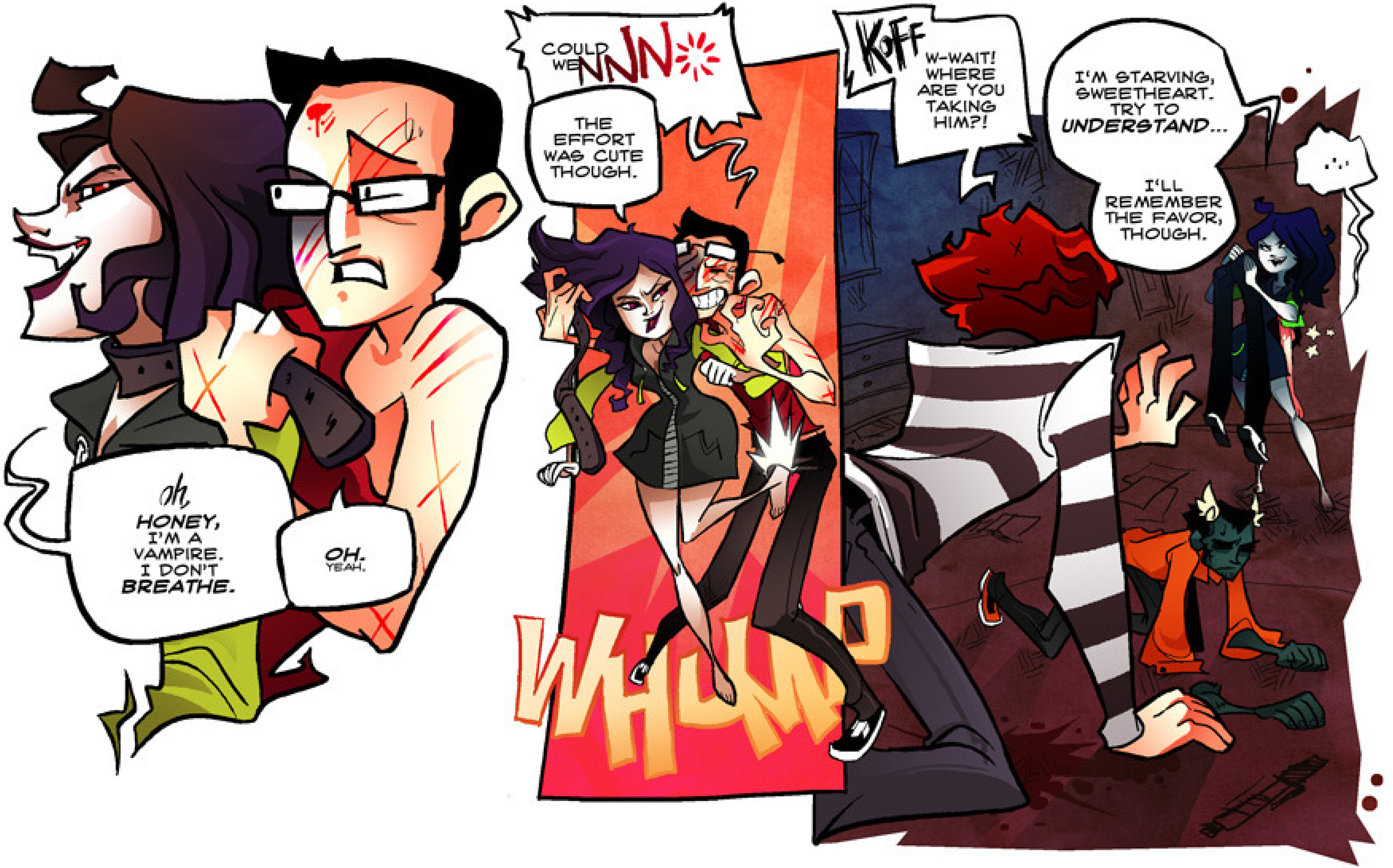

MR. CROSS! LET ME IN! IT'S MY OWN DAMN—
WOOFF.
THKKKK
WELL AREN'T YOU QUITE THE CATCH.
MRF

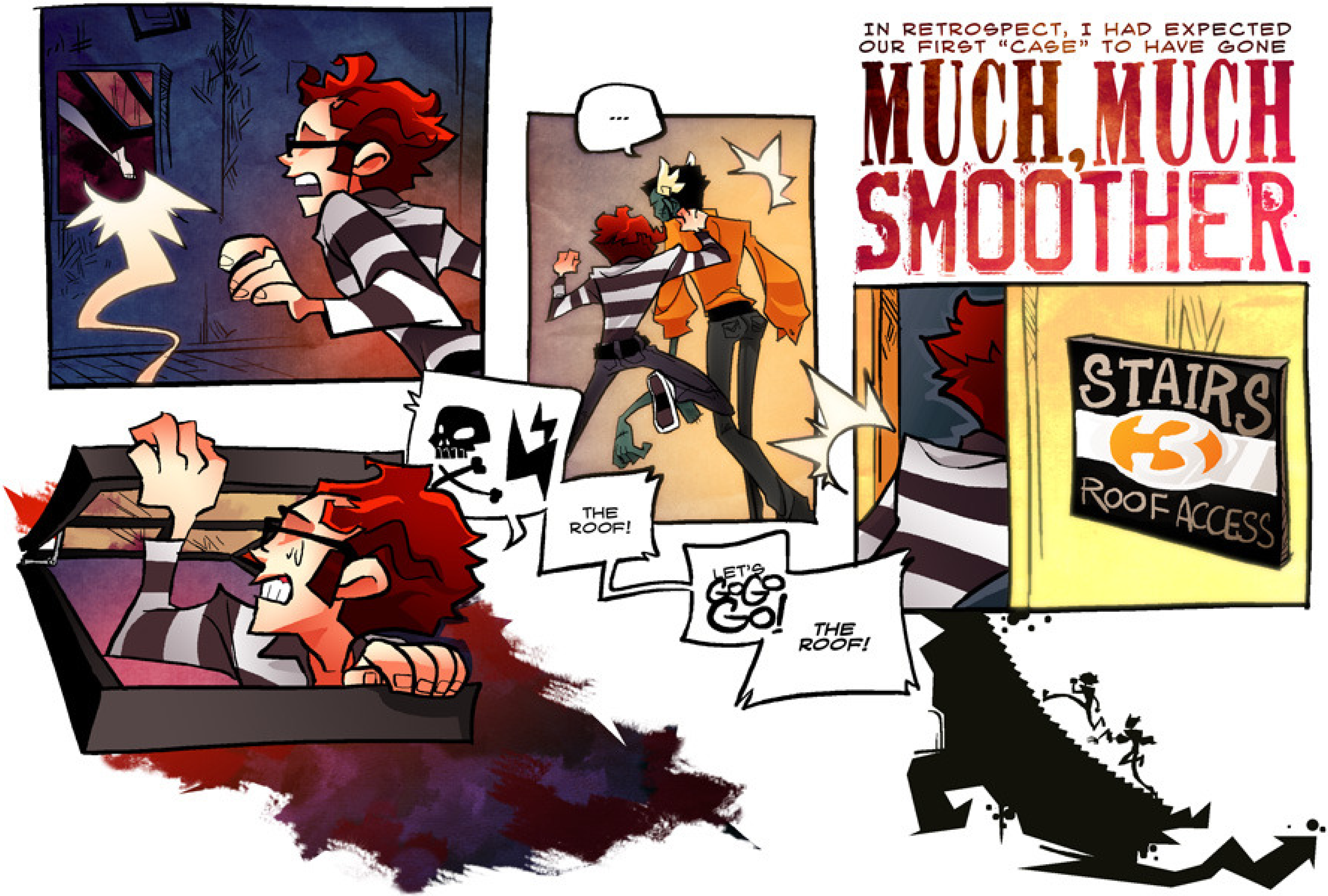

HANNA? ARE YOU...
HRKKK
HANNA!
WHAT HAPP-
THKK

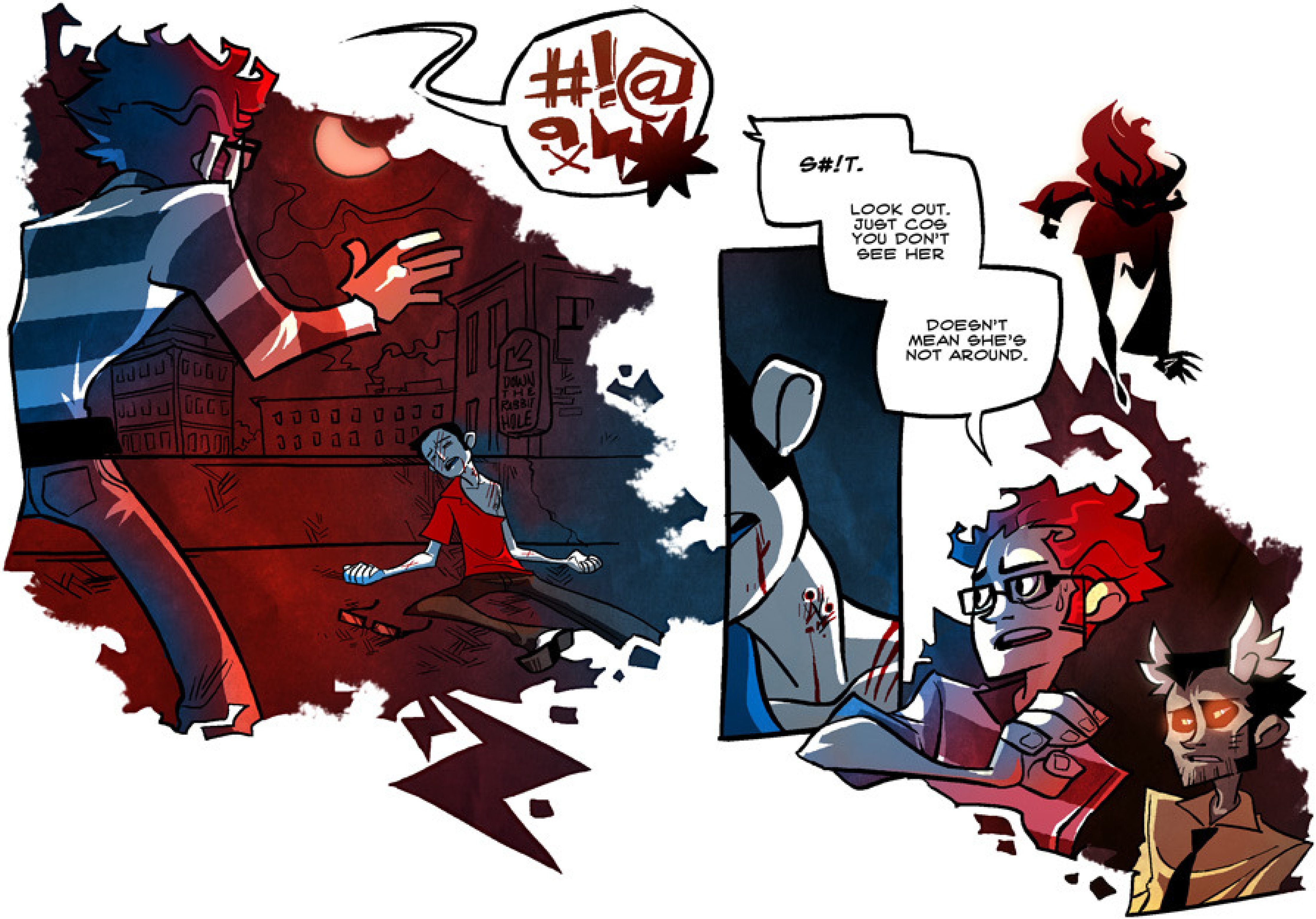

I THOUGHT THAT BEING DEAD WOULD MEAN THAT I WOULD NOT FEEL PAIN.
IT WAS ACTUALLY MORE SHOCKING THAN ANYTHING.
{IT'S OK THOUGH.}
SHE WON'T TAKE ME BY SURPRISE TWICE.

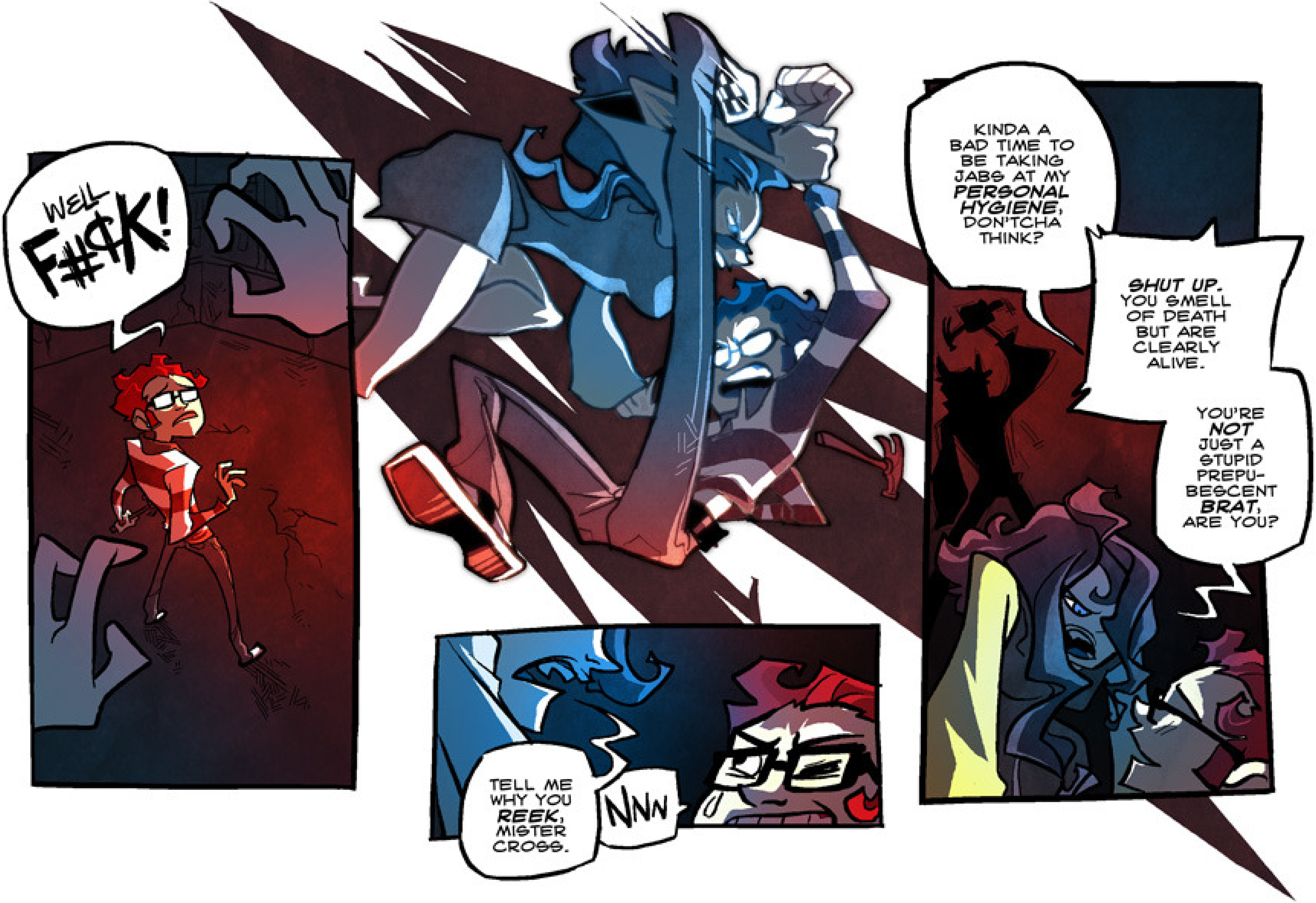

NNN.
CONGRATULATIONS. YOU'VE MANAGED TO BE A HUGE *PAIN IN THE ASS*, DESPITE BEING A ROTTED
CORPSE!
POP

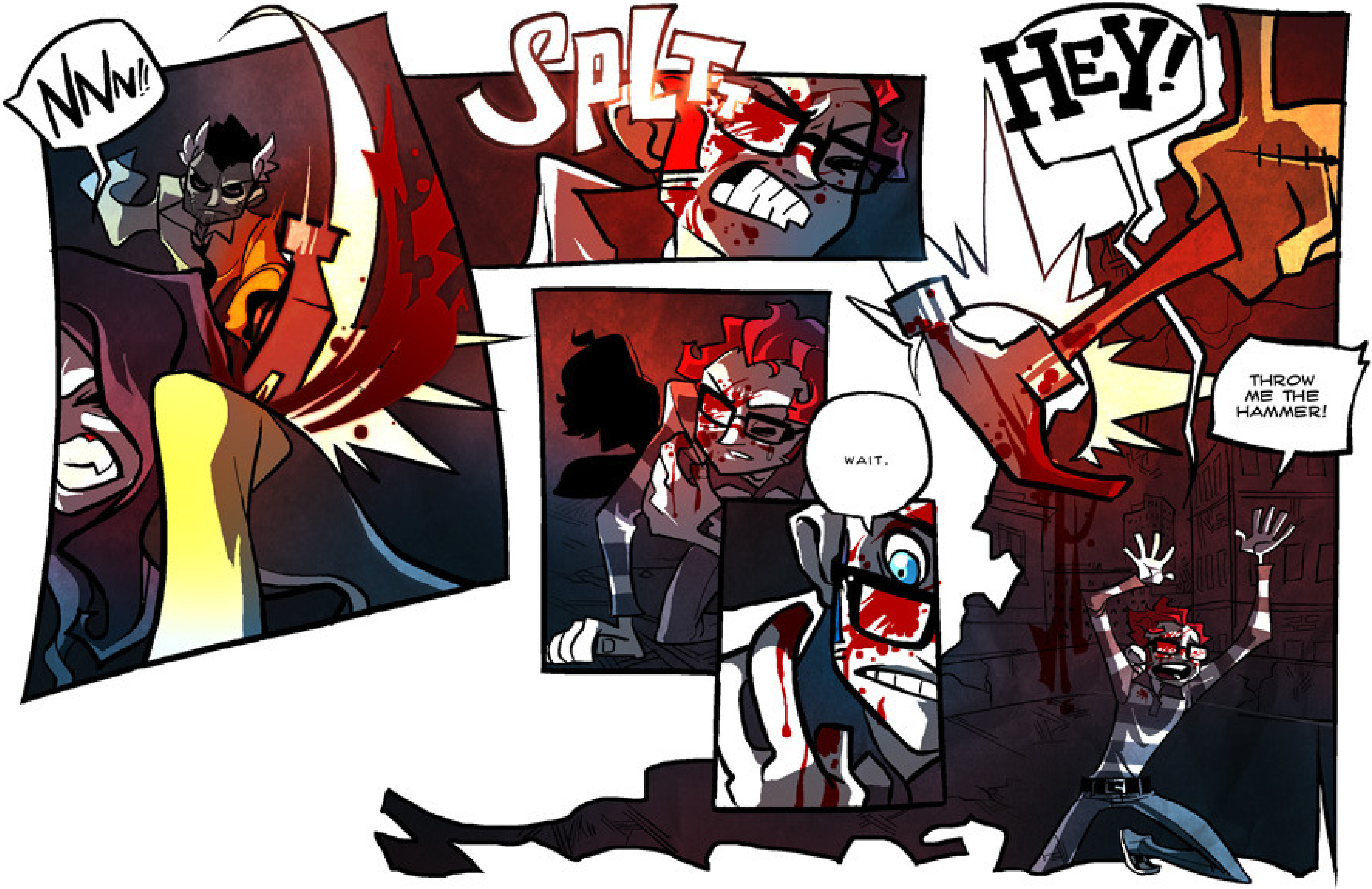

YEAH. NOT MY FINEST HOUR.
FORGIVE THE BRUTALITY, DEAR. I ASSURE YOU IT'S NOT PER--
GRK!

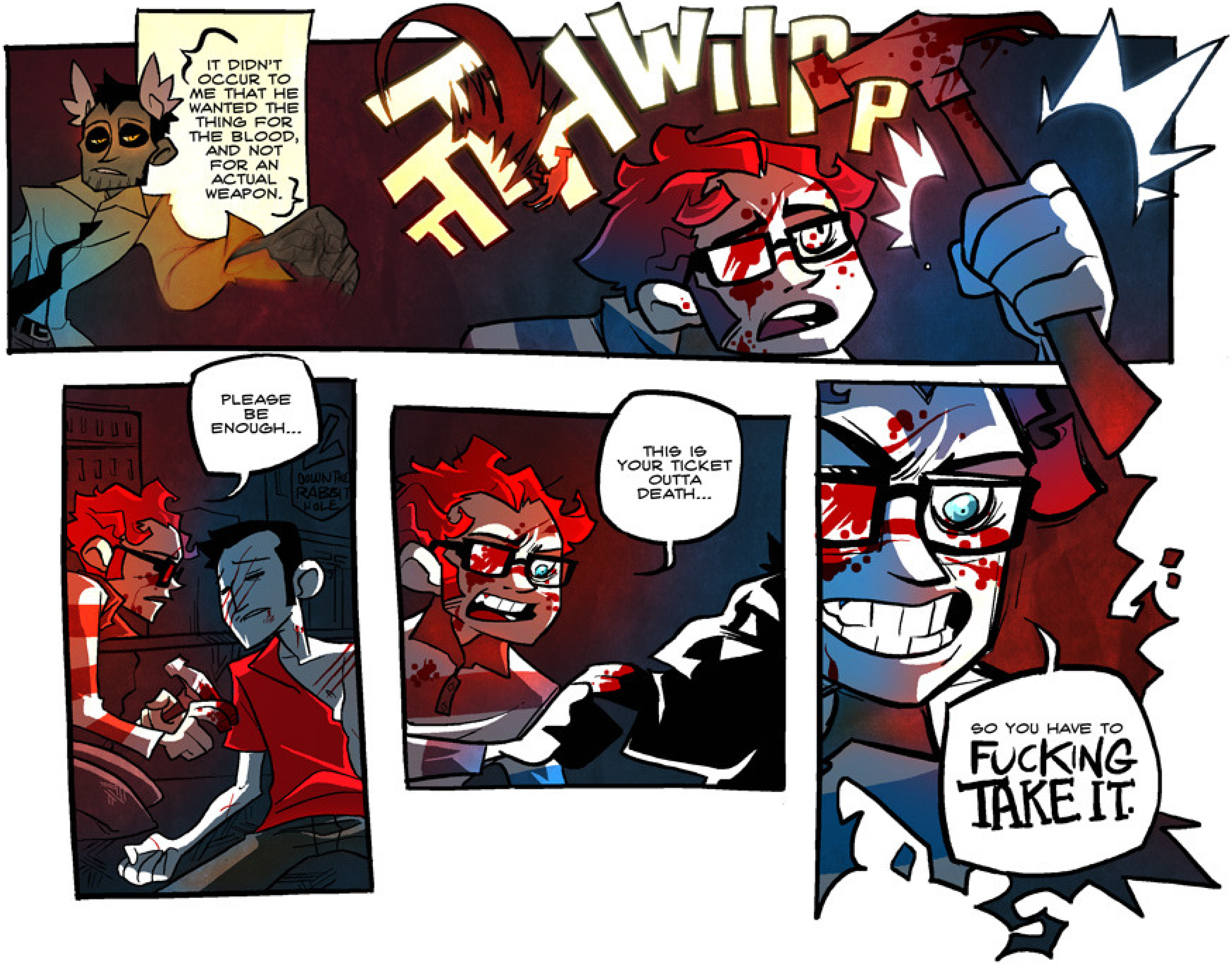

oh, HONEY, I'M A VAMPIRE. I DON'T BREATHE.
OH. YEAH.
COULD WE NNN
THE EFFORT WAS CUTE THOUGH.
WHUMP
KOFF
W-WAIT! WHERE ARE YOU TAKING HIM?!
I'M STARVING, SWEETHEART. TRY TO UNDERSTAND...
I'LL REMEMBER THE FAVOR, THOUGH.
...

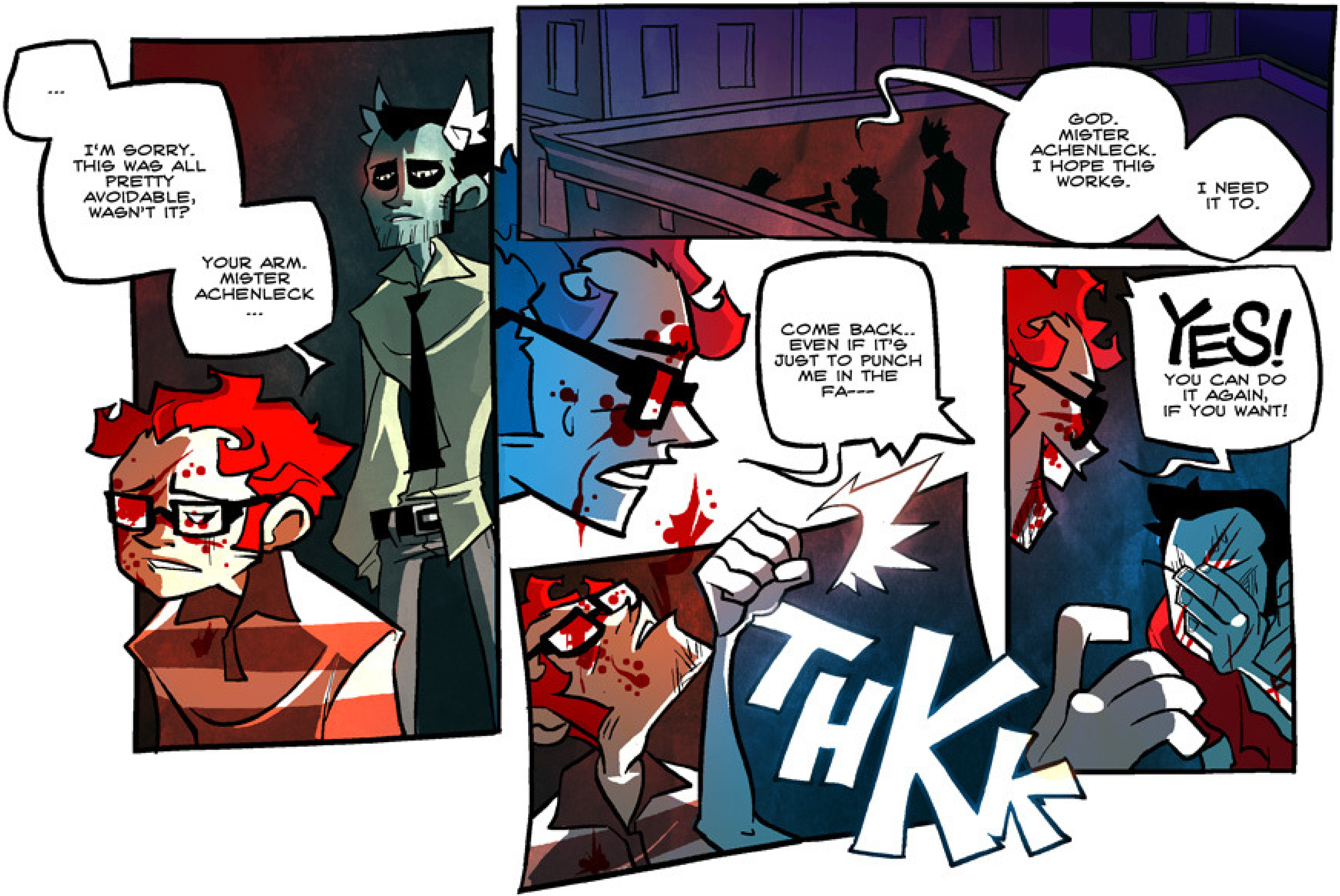

...
IN RETROSPECT, I HAD EXPECTED OUR FIRST "CASE" TO HAVE GONE
MUCH, MUCH SMOOTHER.
THE ROOF!
LET'S GO-GO-GO!
THE ROOF!
STAIRS
3
ROOF ACCESS

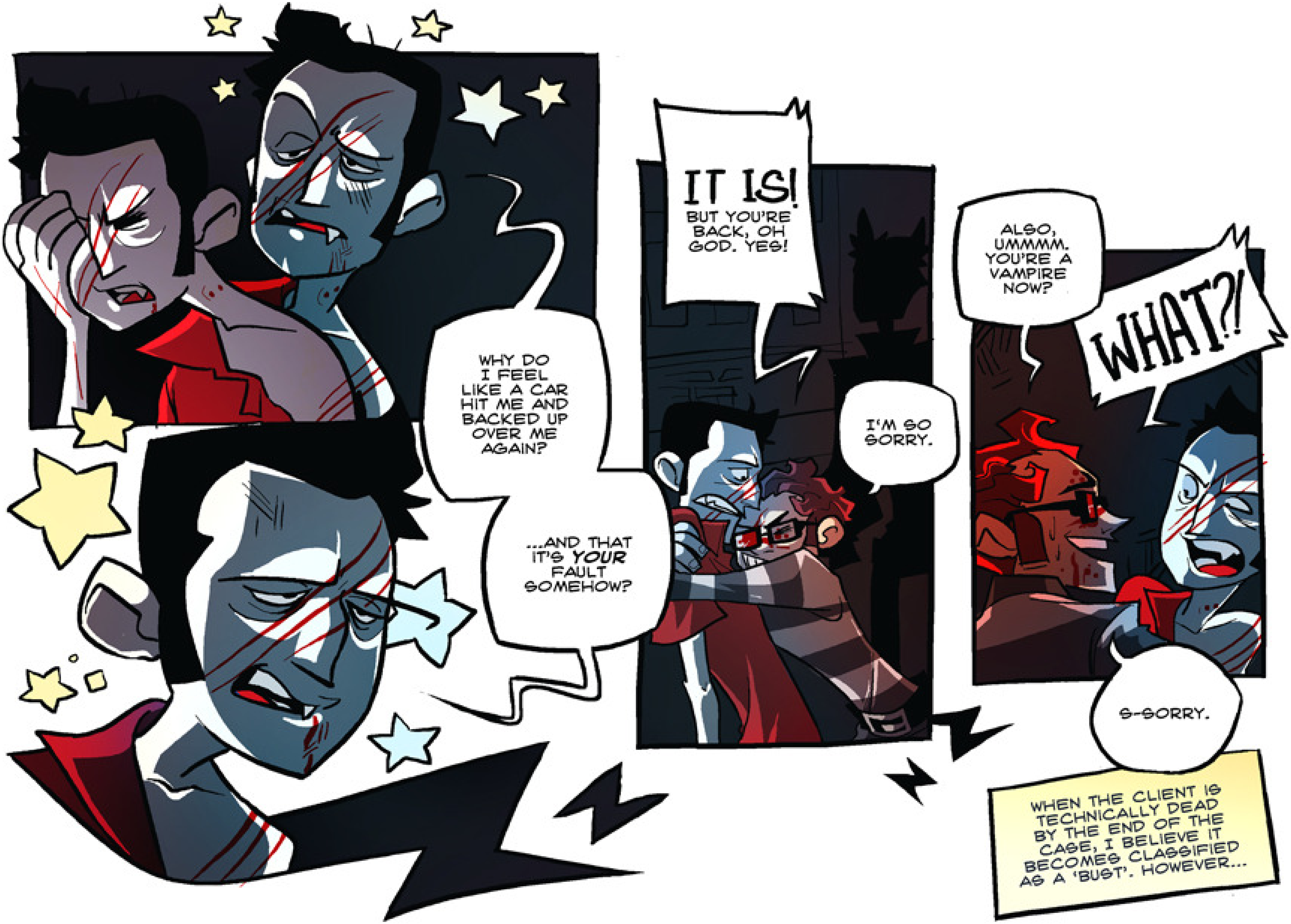

#!@
DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE
S#!T.
LOOK OUT. JUST COS YOU DON'T SEE HER
DOESN'T MEAN SHE'S NOT AROUND.

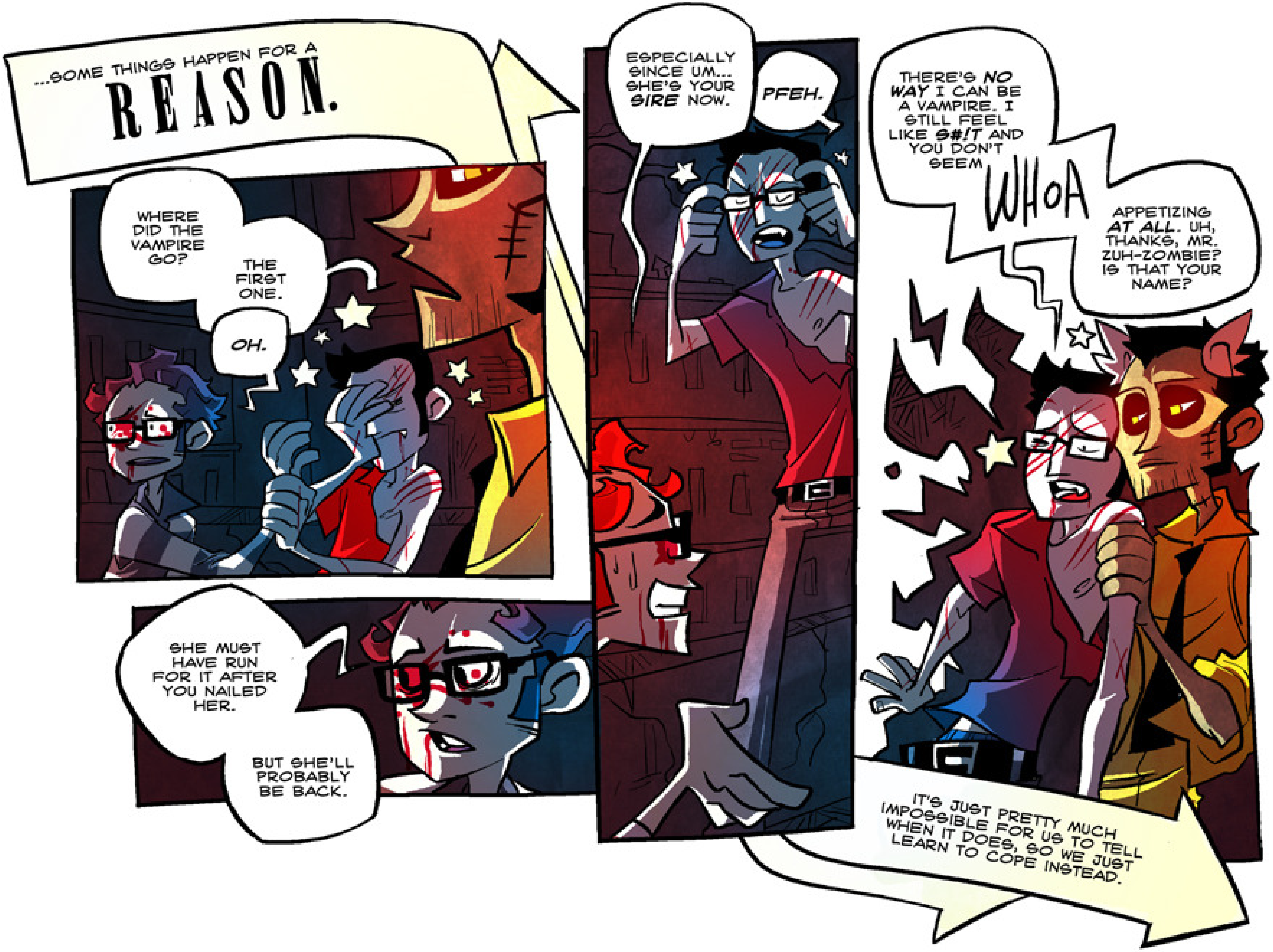

WELL F#¢K!
TELL ME WHY YOU *REEK*, MISTER CROSS.
NNN
KINDA A BAD TIME TO BE TAKING JABS AT MY *PERSONAL HYGIENE*, DON'TCHA THINK?
SHUT UP. YOU SMELL OF DEATH BUT ARE CLEARLY ALIVE.
YOU'RE *NOT* JUST A STUPID PREPUBESCENT *BRAT*, ARE YOU?

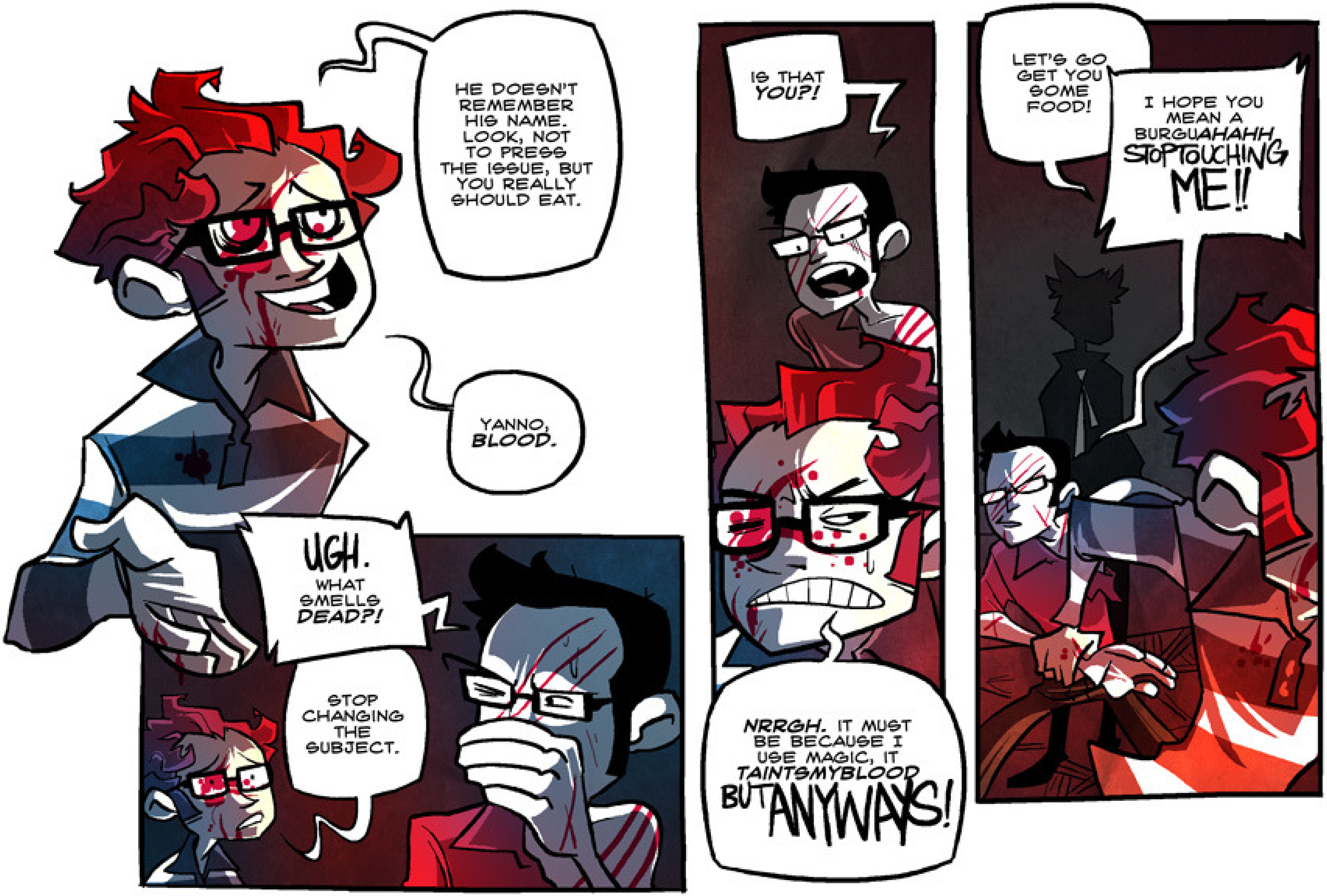

NNN!!
SPLT
WAIT.
HEY!
THROW ME THE HAMMER!

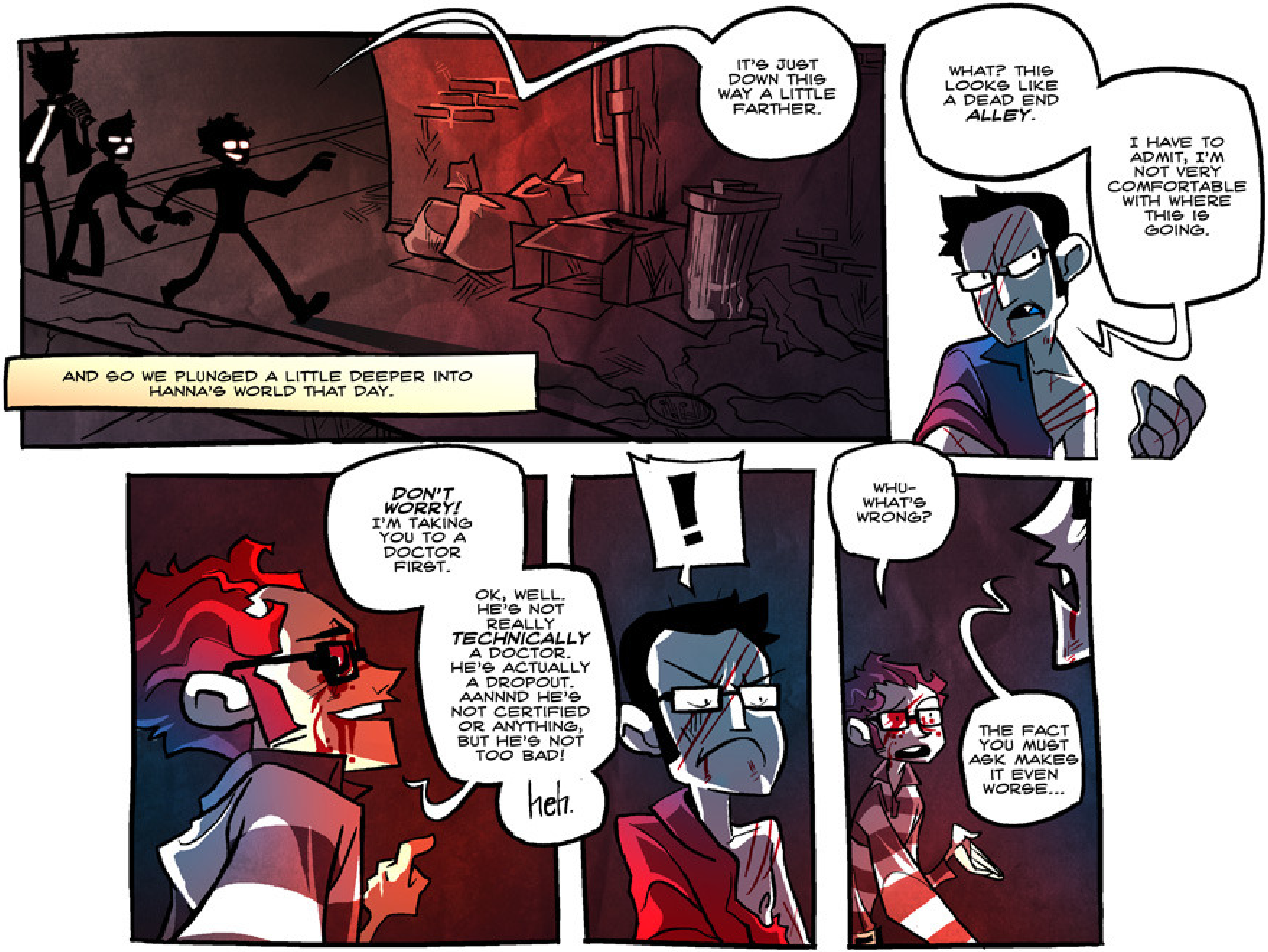

IT DIDN'T OCCUR TO ME THAT HE WANTED THE THING FOR THE BLOOD, AND NOT FOR AN ACTUAL WEAPON.
FFFTHWIPP
PLEASE BE ENOUGH...
DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE
THIS IS YOUR TICKET OUTTA DEATH...
SO YOU HAVE TO FUCKING TAKE IT.

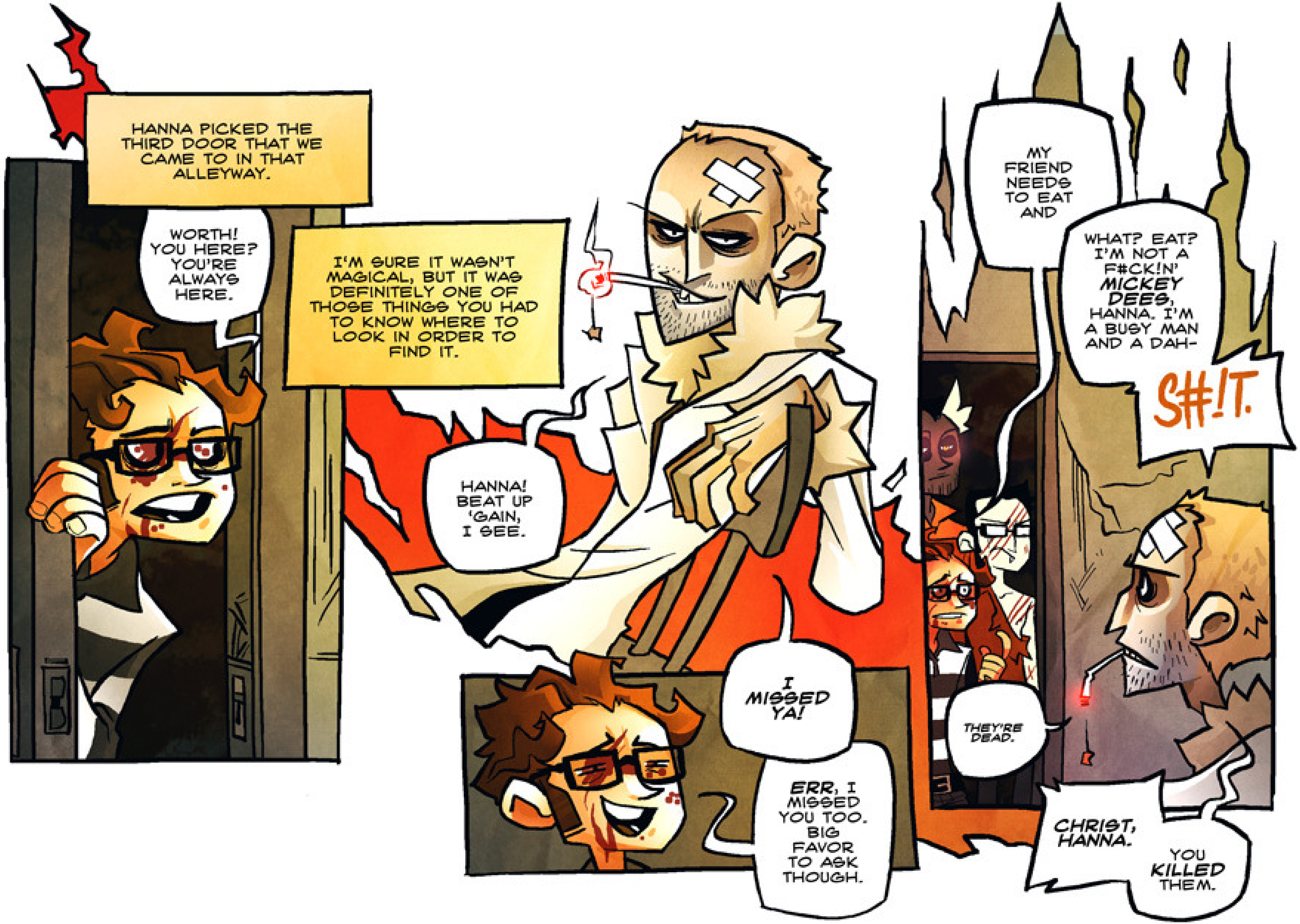

...
I'M SORRY. THIS WAS ALL PRETTY AVOIDABLE, WASN'T IT?
YOUR ARM. MISTER ACHENLECK ...
GOD. MISTER ACHENLECK. I HOPE THIS WORKS.
I NEED IT TO.
COME BACK.. EVEN IF IT'S JUST TO PUNCH ME IN THE FA---
THKK
YES! YOU CAN DO IT AGAIN, IF YOU WANT!

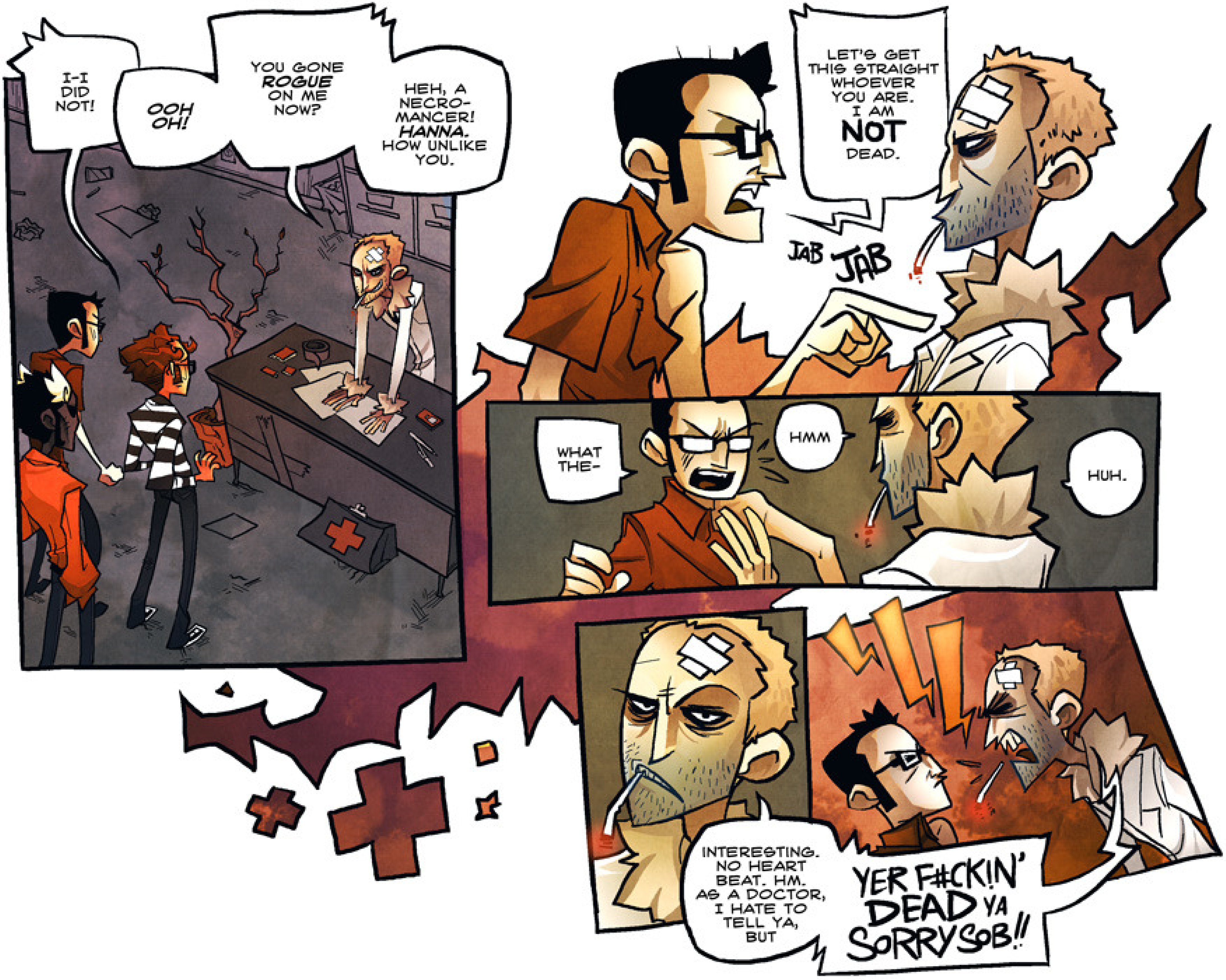

WHY DO I FEEL LIKE A CAR HIT ME AND BACKED UP OVER ME AGAIN?
...AND THAT IT'S *YOUR* FAULT SOMEHOW?
IT IS! BUT YOU'RE BACK, OH GOD. YES!
I'M SO SORRY.
ALSO, UMMMM. YOU'RE A VAMPIRE NOW?
WHAT?!
S-SORRY.
WHEN THE CLIENT IS TECHNICALLY DEAD BY THE END OF THE CASE, I BELIEVE IT BECOMES CLASSIFIED AS A 'BUST'. HOWEVER...

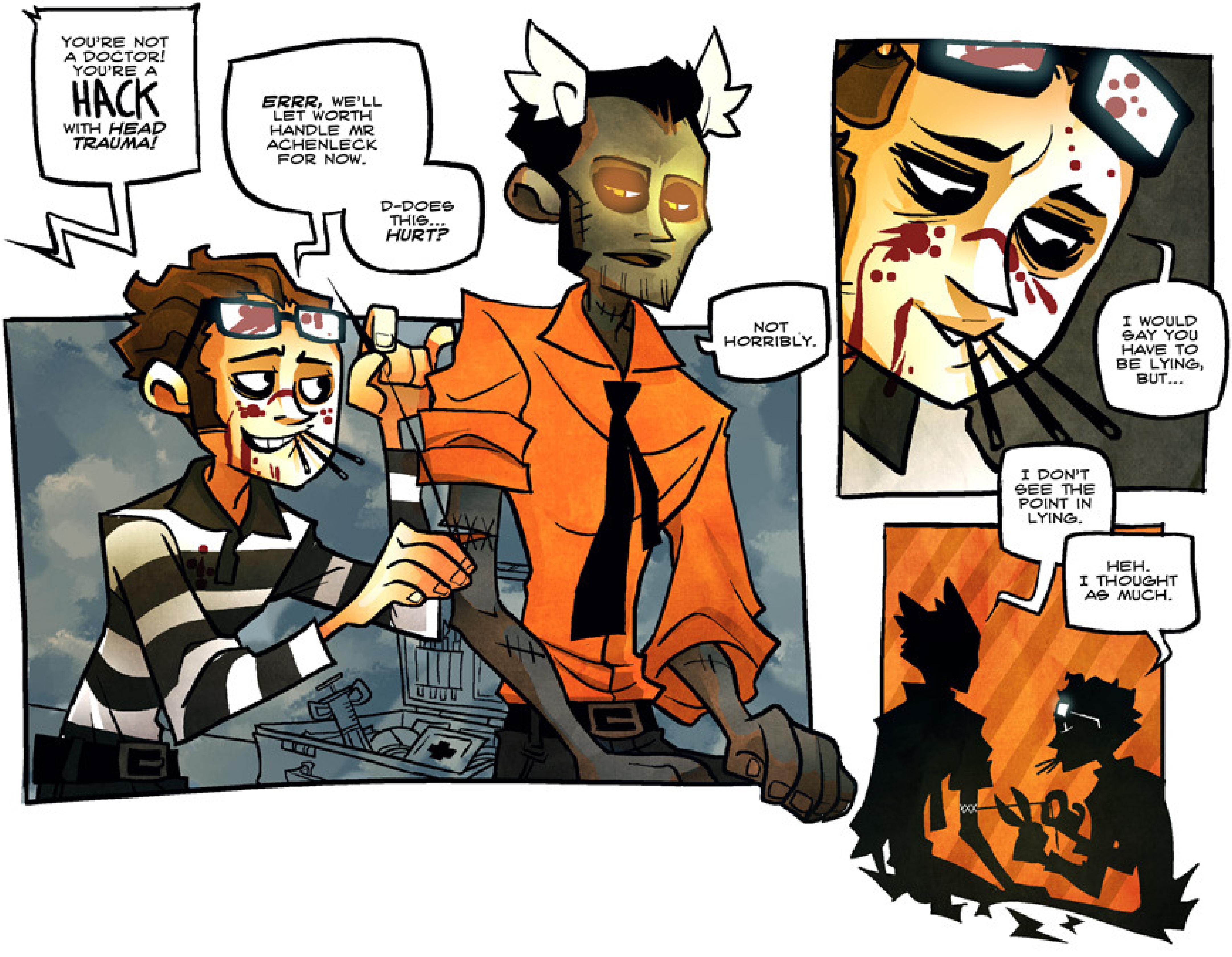

...SOME THINGS HAPPEN FOR A REASON.
WHERE DID THE VAMPIRE GO?
THE FIRST ONE.
OH.
SHE MUST HAVE RUN FOR IT AFTER YOU NAILED HER.
BUT SHE'LL PROBABLY BE BACK.
ESPECIALLY SINCE UM... SHE'S YOUR SIRE NOW.
PFEH.
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN BE A VAMPIRE. I STILL FEEL LIKE S#!T AND YOU DON'T SEEM
WHOA
APPETIZING AT ALL. UH, THANKS, MR. ZUH-ZOMBIE? IS THAT YOUR NAME?
IT'S JUST PRETTY MUCH IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO TELL WHEN IT DOES, SO WE JUST LEARN TO COPE INSTEAD.

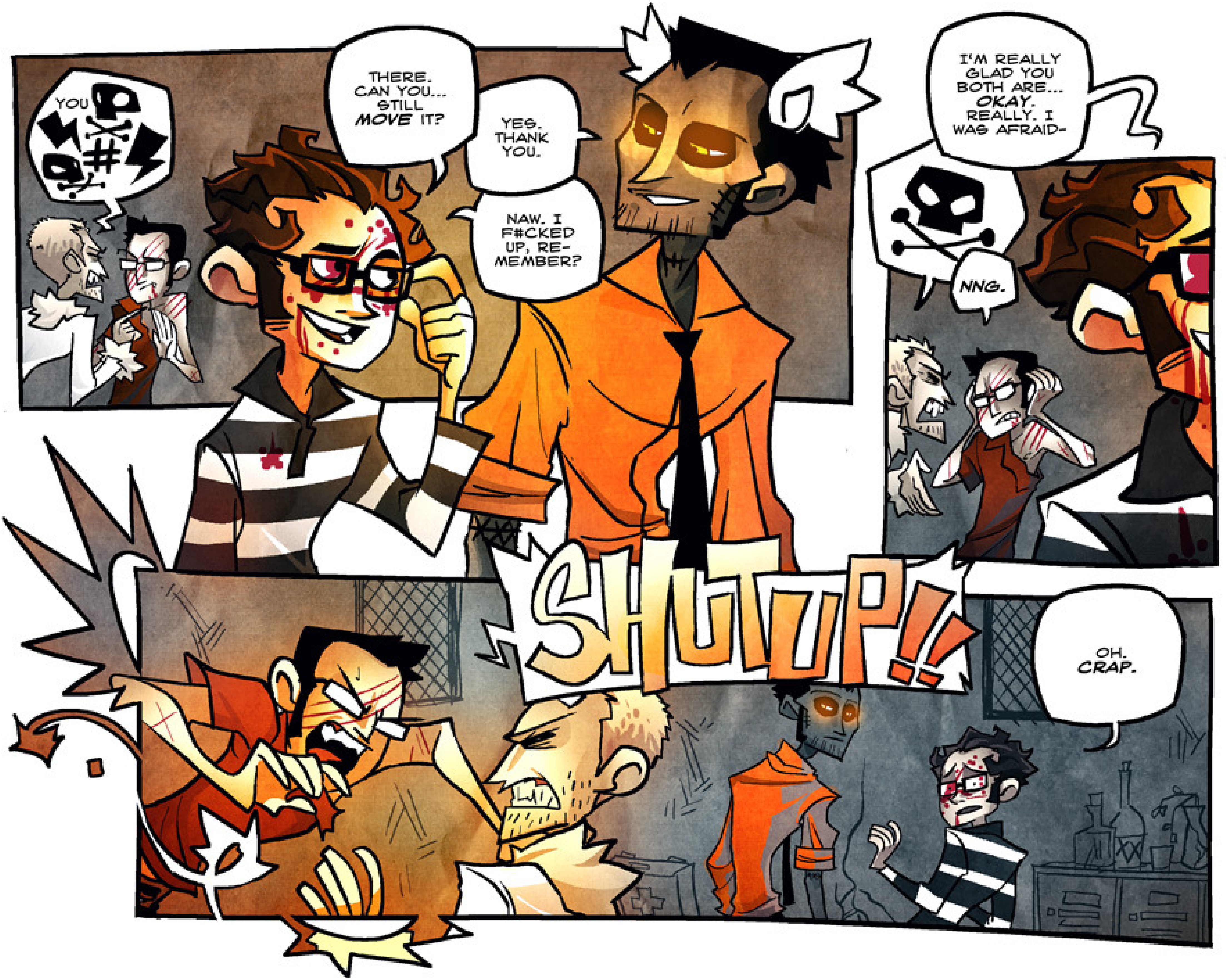

HE DOESN'T REMEMBER HIS NAME. LOOK, NOT TO PRESS THE ISSUE, BUT YOU REALLY SHOULD EAT.
YANNO, BLOOD.
UGH. WHAT SMELLS DEAD?!
STOP CHANGING THE SUBJECT.
IS THAT YOU?!
NRRGH. IT MUST BE BECAUSE I USE MAGIC, IT TAINTSMYBLOOD BUT ANYWAYS!
LET'S GO GET YOU SOME FOOD!
I HOPE YOU MEAN A BURGUAHAHH STOPTOUCHING ME!!

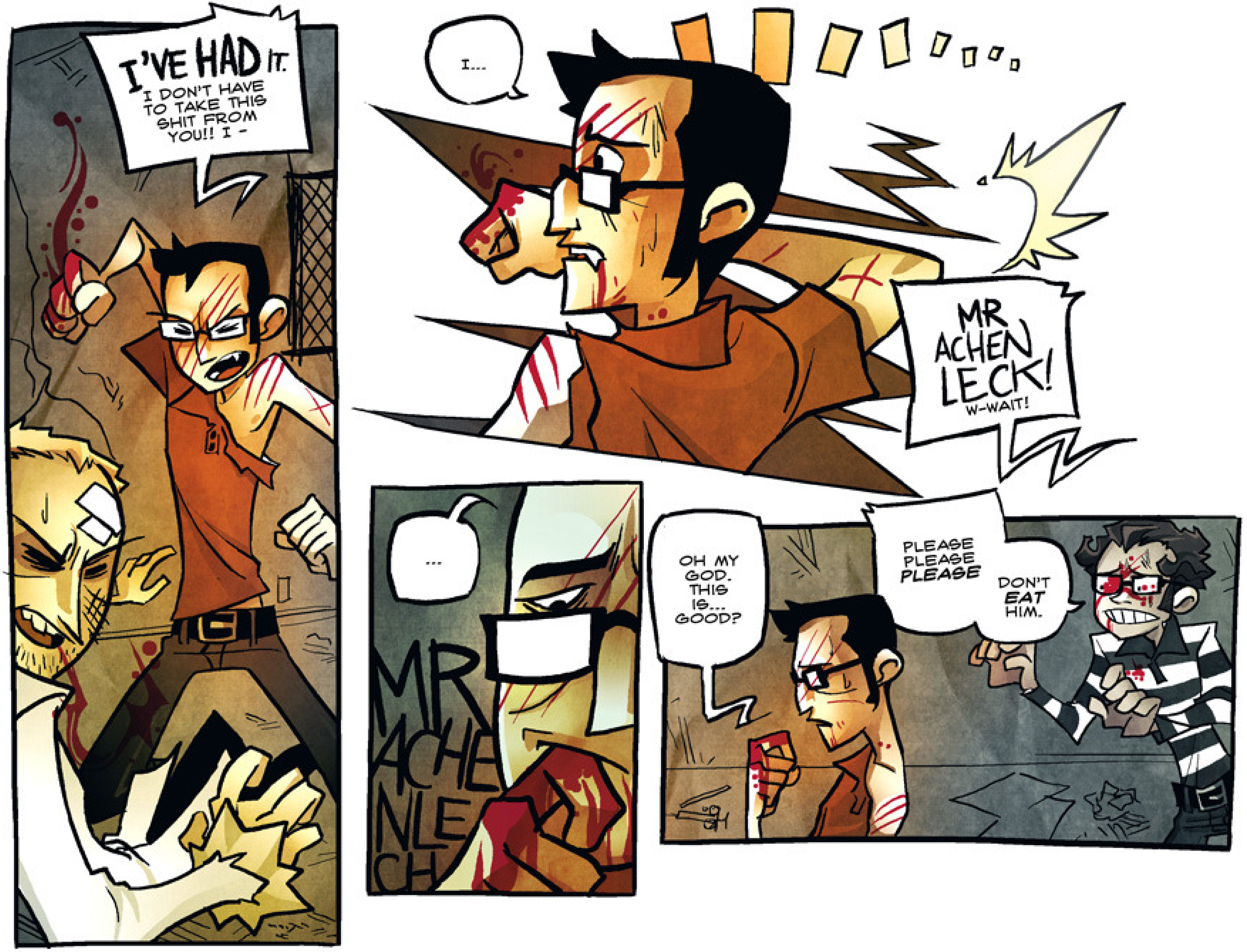

IT'S JUST DOWN THIS WAY A LITTLE FARTHER.
AND SO WE PLUNGED A LITTLE DEEPER INTO HANNA'S WORLD THAT DAY.
WHAT? THIS LOOKS LIKE A DEAD END *ALLEY*.
I HAVE TO ADMIT, I'M NOT VERY COMFORTABLE WITH WHERE THIS IS GOING.
DON'T WORRY! I'M TAKING YOU TO A DOCTOR FIRST.
OK, WELL. HE'S NOT REALLY **TECHNICALLY** A DOCTOR. HE'S ACTUALLY A DROPOUT. AANNND HE'S NOT CERTIFIED OR ANYTHING, BUT HE'S NOT TOO BAD!
heh.
!
WHU-WHAT'S WRONG?
THE FACT YOU MUST ASK MAKES IT EVEN WORSE...

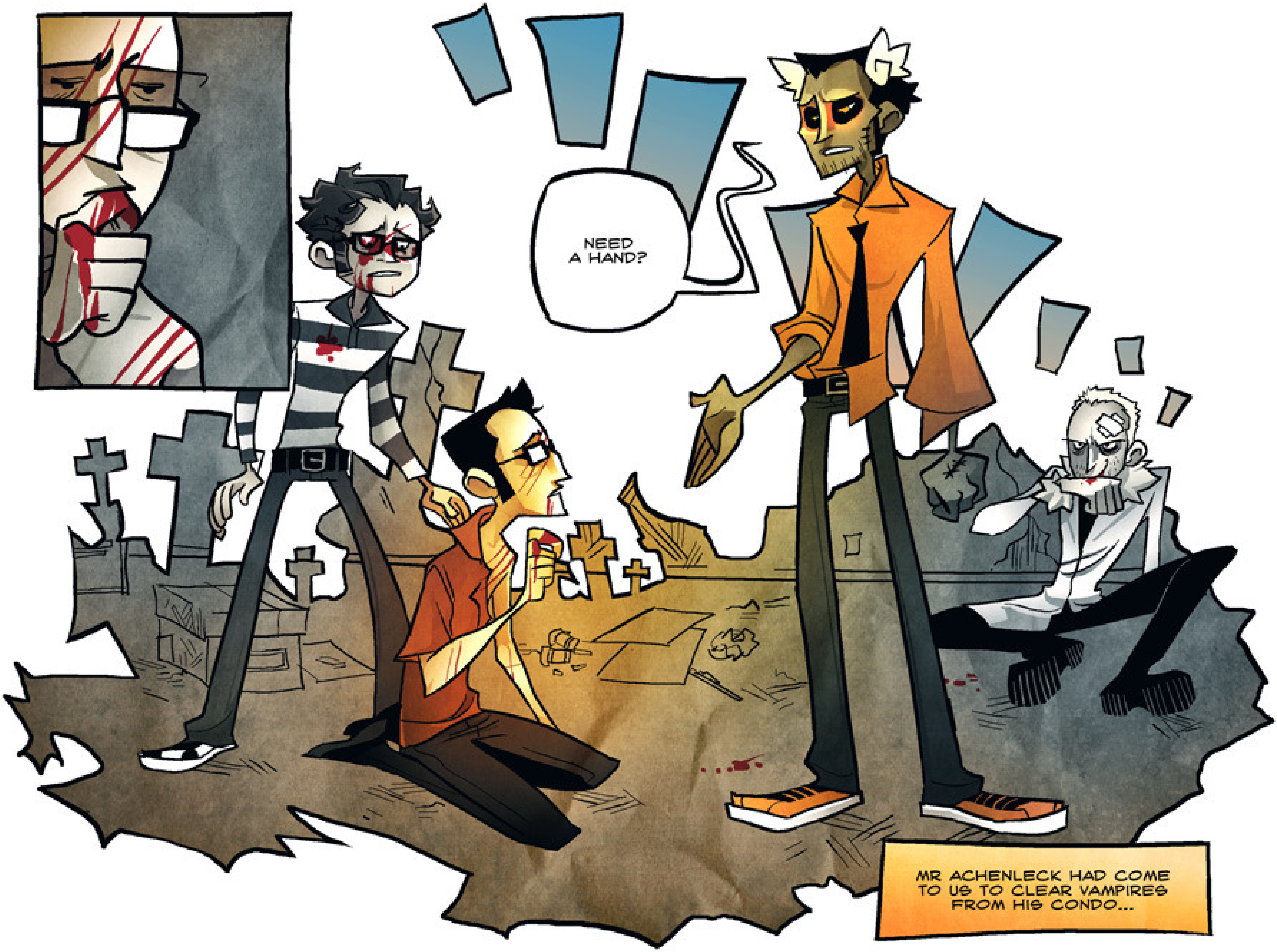

HANNA PICKED THE THIRD DOOR THAT WE CAME TO IN THAT ALLEYWAY.
WORTH! YOU HERE? YOU'RE ALWAYS HERE.
I'M SURE IT WASN'T MAGICAL, BUT IT WAS DEFINITELY ONE OF THOSE THINGS YOU HAD TO KNOW WHERE TO LOOK IN ORDER TO FIND IT.
HANNA! BEAT UP 'GAIN, I SEE.
I *MISSED YA!*
ERR, I MISSED YOU TOO. BIG FAVOR TO ASK THOUGH.
MY FRIEND NEEDS TO EAT AND
WHAT? EAT? I'M NOT A F#CK!N' ***MICKEY DEES***, HANNA. I'M A BUSY MAN AND A DAH-
S#!T.
THEY'RE DEAD.
CHRIST, HANNA.
YOU *KILLED* THEM.


I-I DID NOT!
OOH OH!
YOU GONE **ROGUE** ON ME NOW?
HEH, A NECROMANCER! **HANNA.** HOW UNLIKE YOU.
LET'S GET THIS STRAIGHT WHOEVER YOU ARE. I AM **NOT** DEAD.
JAB JAB
WHAT THE-
HMM
HUH.
INTERESTING. NO HEART BEAT. HM. AS A DOCTOR, I HATE TO TELL YA, BUT
YER F#CK!N' DEAD YA SORRY SOB!!

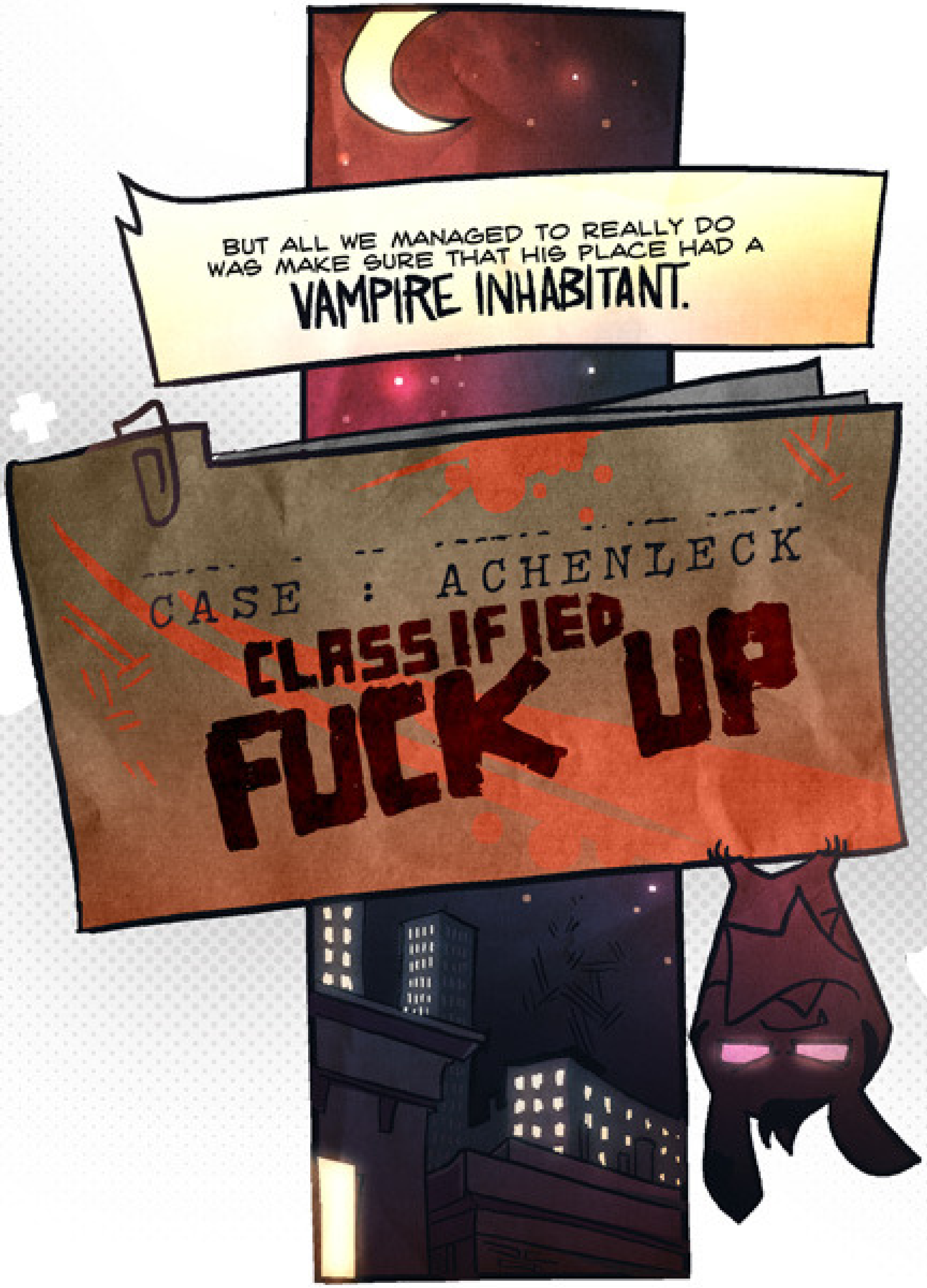

YOU'RE NOT A DOCTOR! YOU'RE A HACK WITH *HEAD TRAUMA!*
ERRR, WE'LL LET WORTH HANDLE MR ACHENLECK FOR NOW.
D-DOES THIS... *HURT?*
NOT HORRIBLY.
I WOULD SAY YOU HAVE TO BE LYING, BUT...
I DON'T SEE THE POINT IN LYING.
HEH. I THOUGHT AS MUCH.

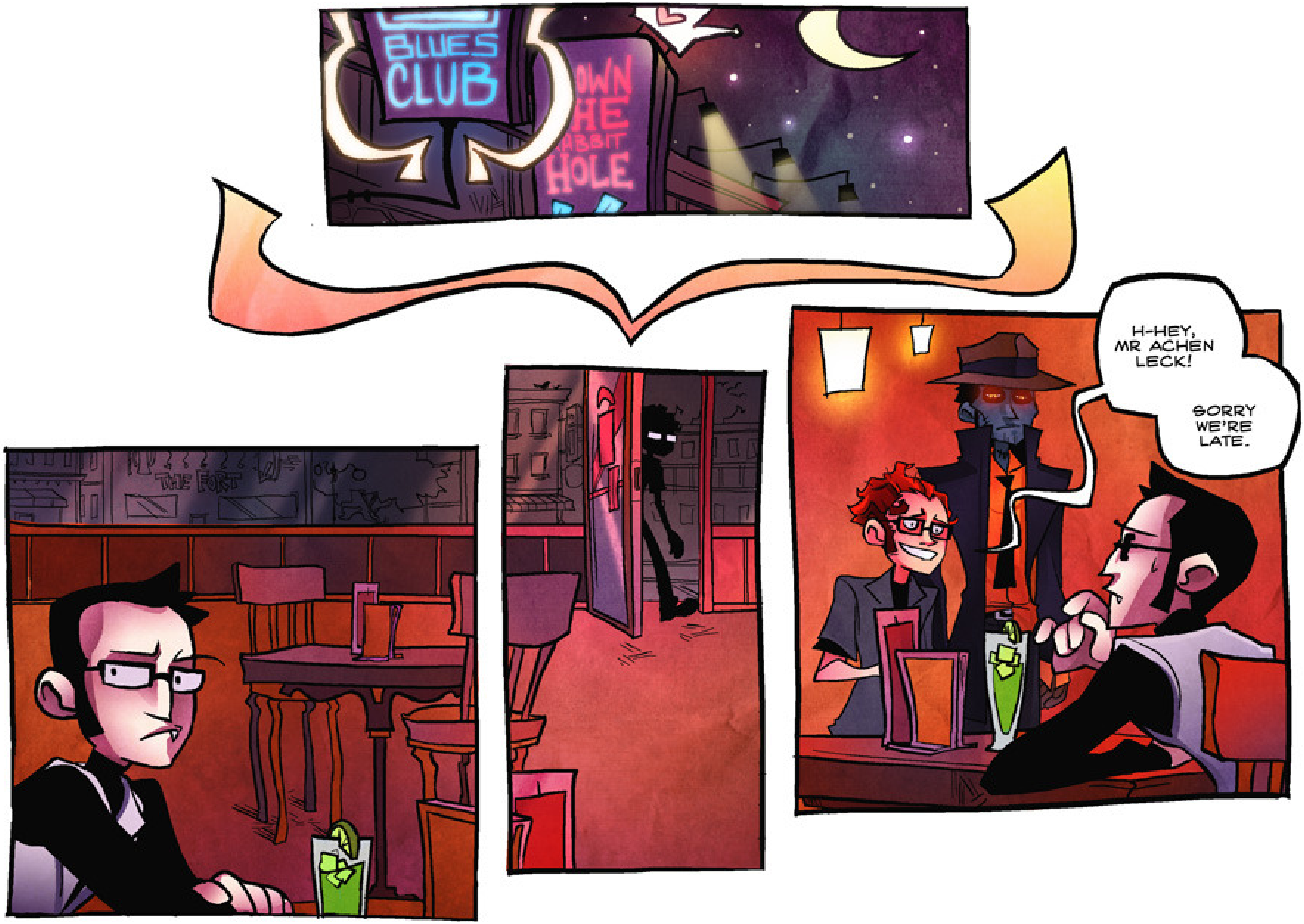

YOU ☠ ⚡ ☠ # ⚡
THERE. CAN YOU... STILL *MOVE* IT?
YES. THANK YOU.
NAW. I F#CKED UP, REMEMBER?
I'M REALLY GLAD YOU BOTH ARE... ***OKAY***. REALLY. I WAS AFRAID-
☠
NNG.
SHUTUP!!
OH. *CRAP*.

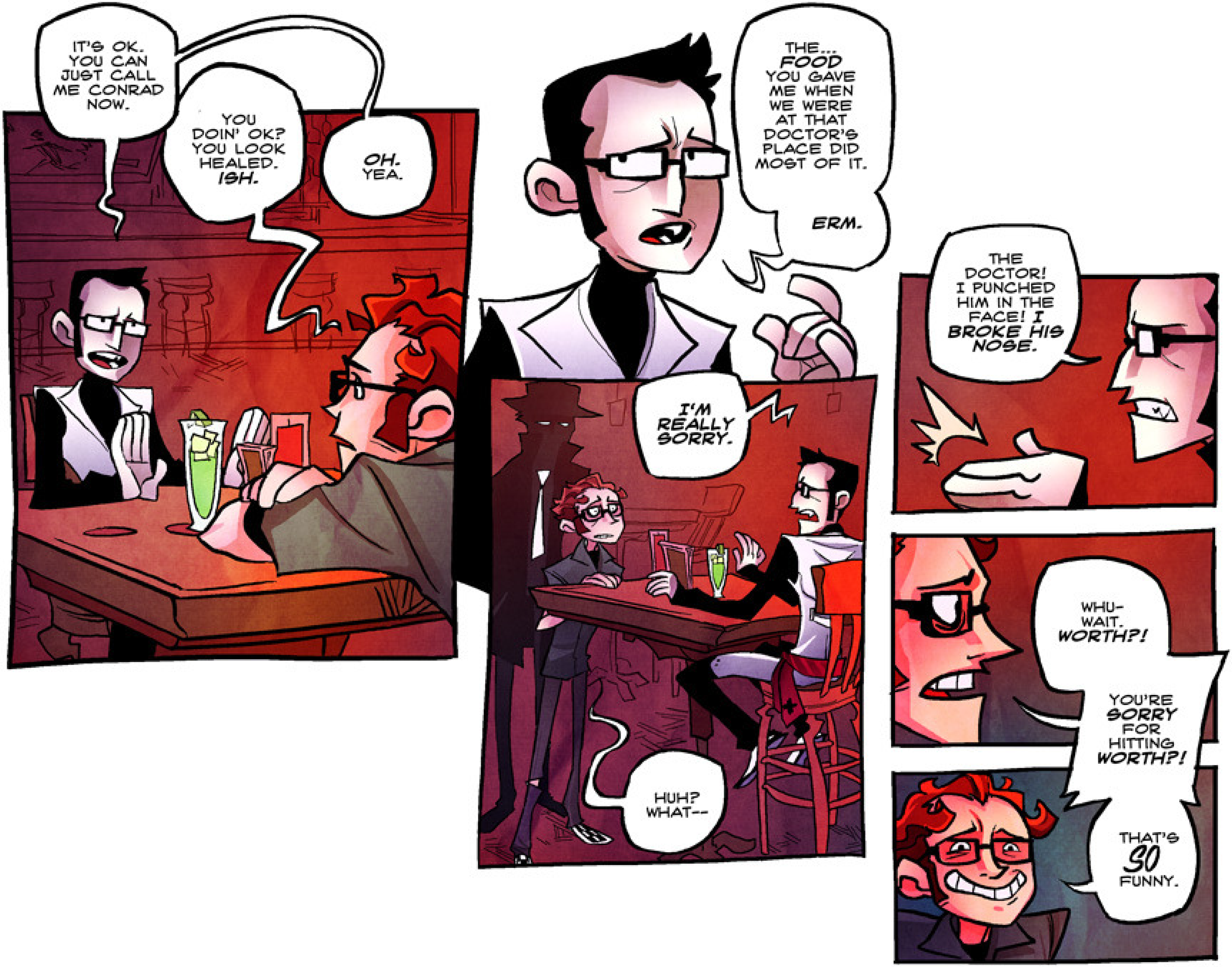

I'VE HAD IT.
I DON'T HAVE TO TAKE THIS SHIT FROM YOU!! I -
I...
MR ACHENLECK!
W-WAIT!
...
MR ACHENLECH
OH MY GOD. THIS IS... GOOD?
PLEASE PLEASE **PLEASE**
DON'T ***EAT*** HIM.

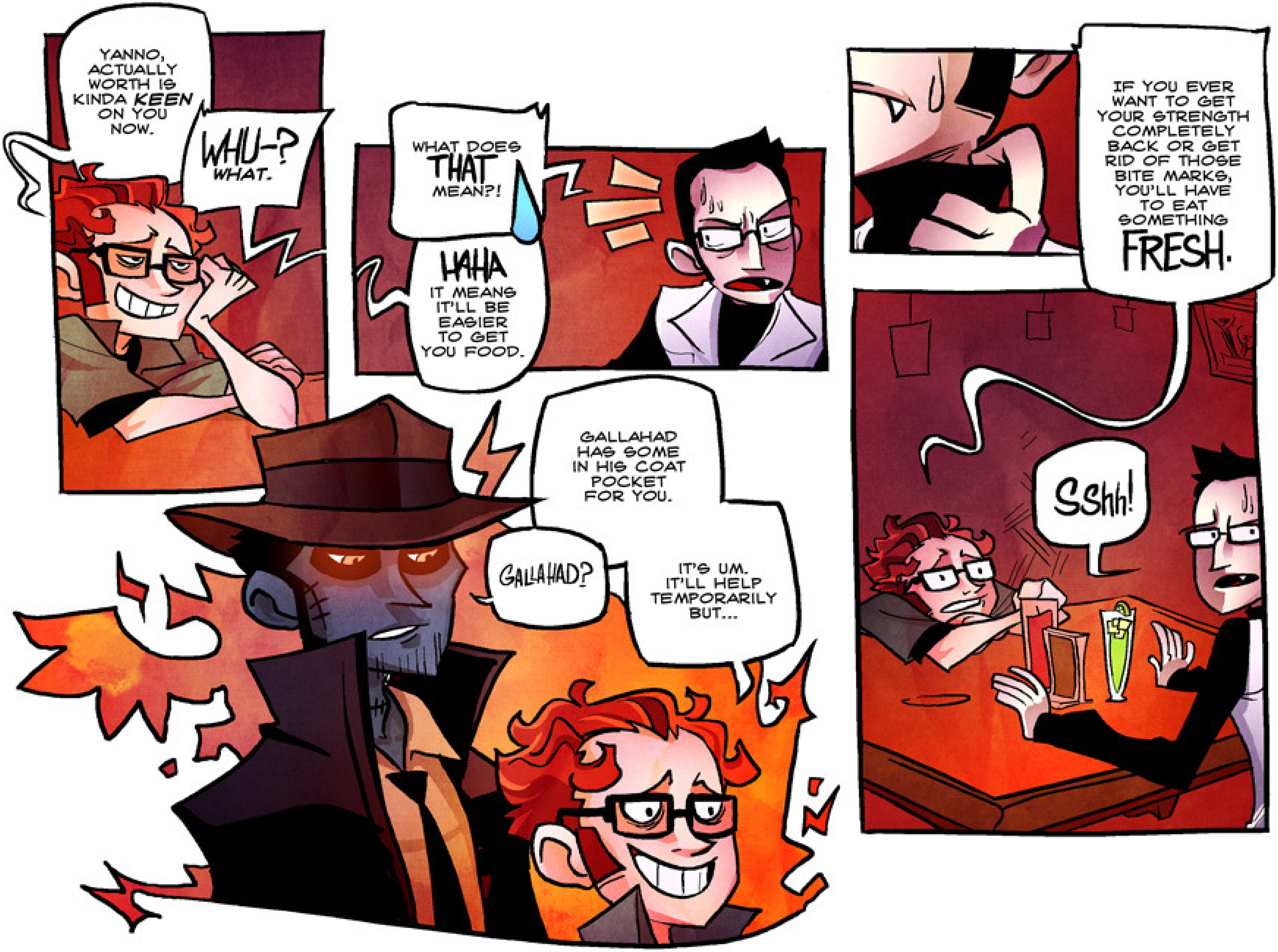


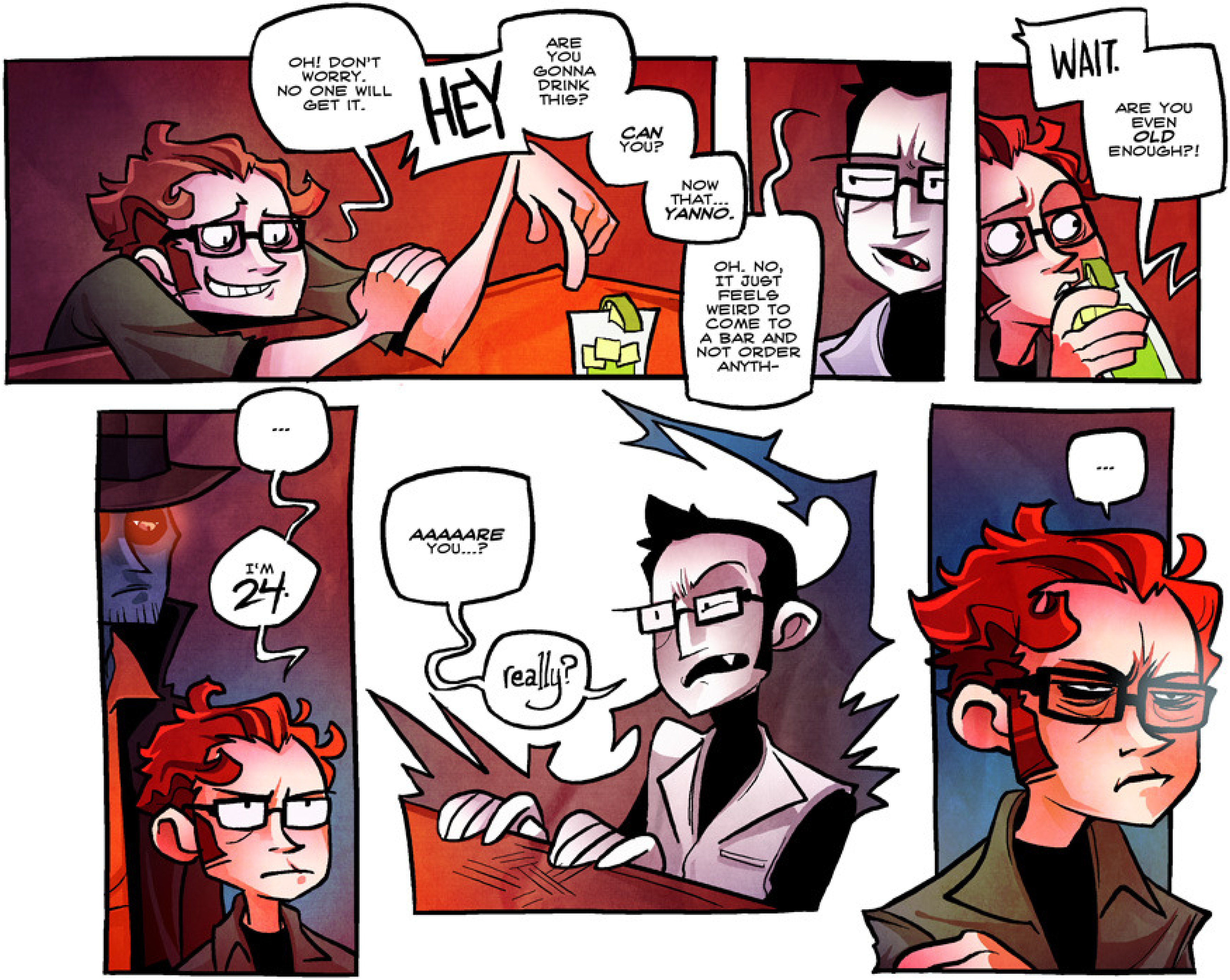
MR ACHENLECK HAD COME TO US TO CLEAR VAMPIRES FROM HIS CONDO...

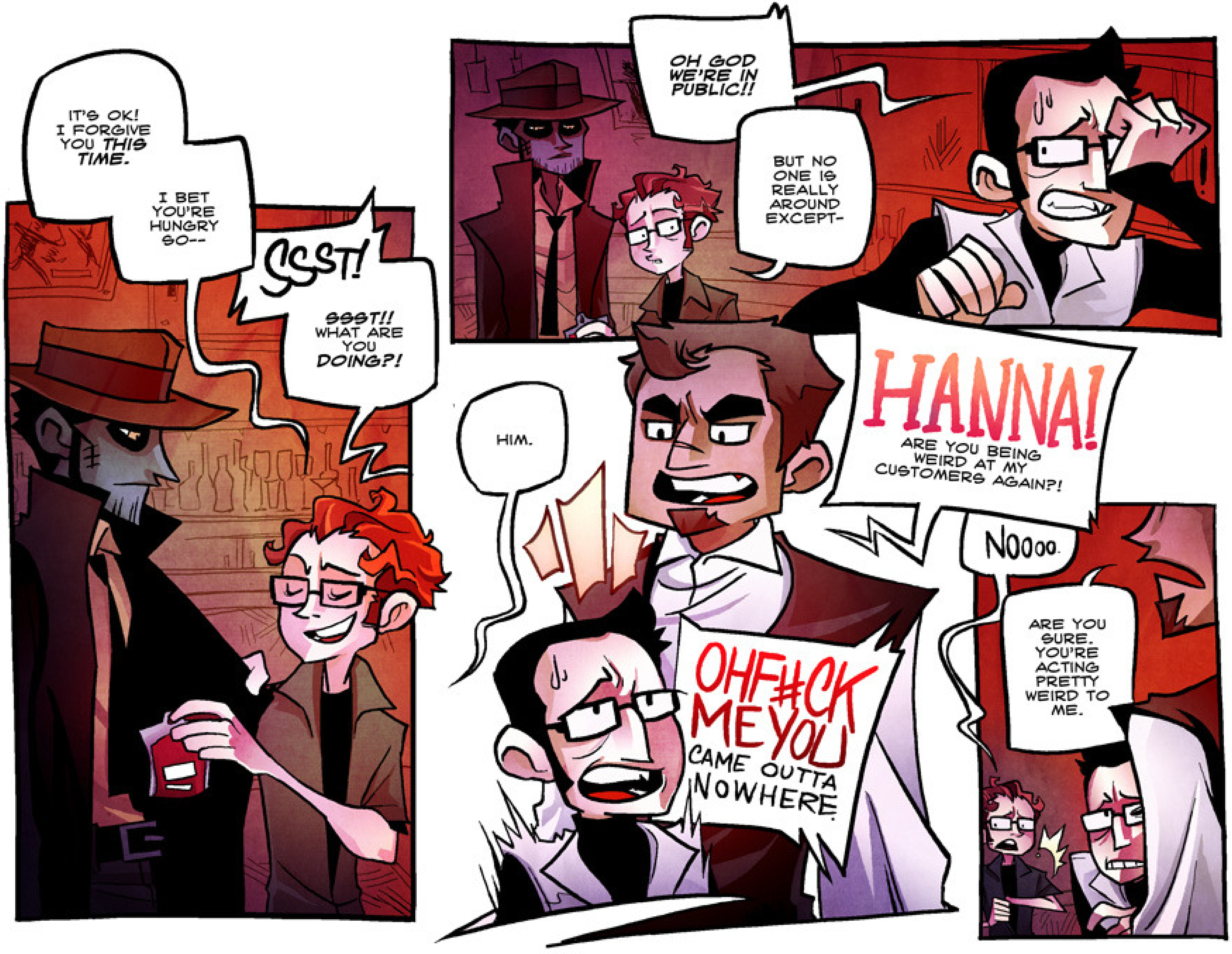

BUT ALL WE MANAGED TO REALLY DO WAS MAKE SURE THAT HIS PLACE HAD A VAMPIRE INHABITANT.
CASE : ACHENLECK
CLASSIFIED
FUCK UP

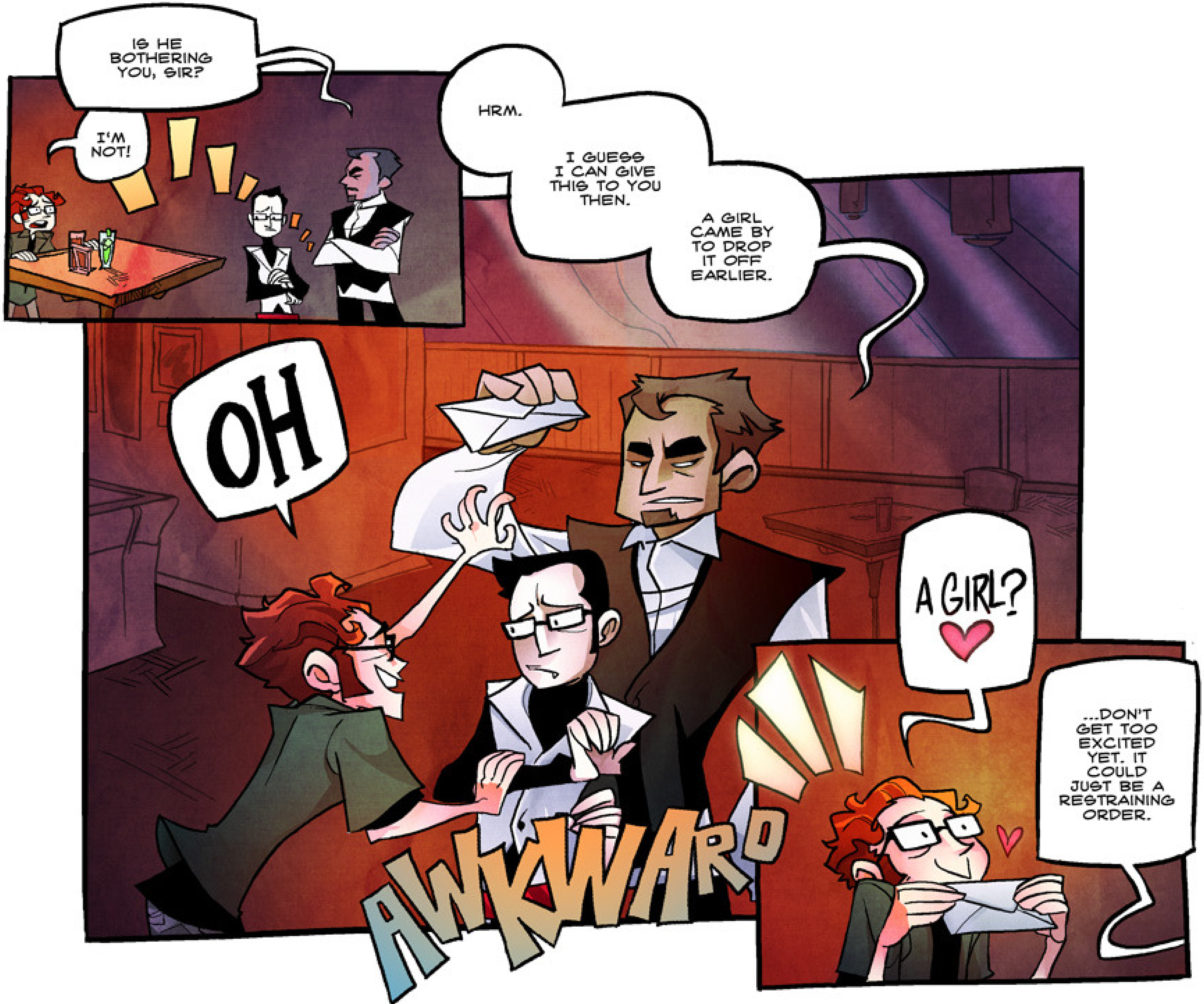

BLUES CLUB
OWN HE ABBIT HOLE
THE FORT
H-HEY, MR ACHEN LECK!
SORRY WE'RE LATE.

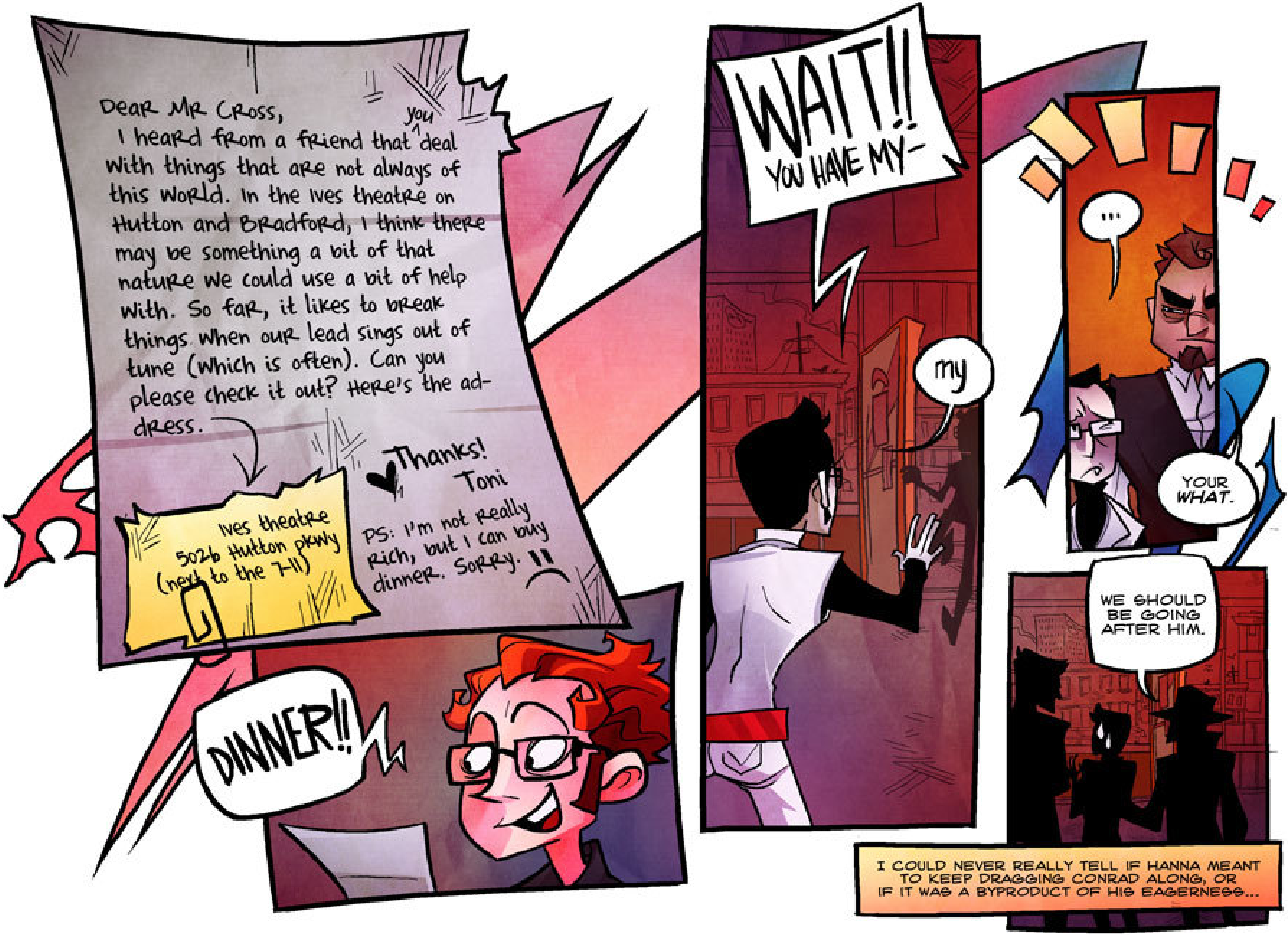

IT'S OK. YOU CAN JUST CALL ME CONRAD NOW.
YOU DOIN' OK? YOU LOOK HEALED. *ISH.*
OH. YEA.
THE... *FOOD* YOU GAVE ME WHEN WE WERE AT THAT DOCTOR'S PLACE DID MOST OF IT.
ERM.
I'M REALLY SORRY.
HUH? WHAT--
THE DOCTOR! I PUNCHED HIM IN THE FACE! *I BROKE HIS NOSE.*
WHU- WAIT. *WORTH?!*
YOU'RE *SORRY* FOR HITTING *WORTH?!*
THAT'S *SO* FUNNY.


YANNO, ACTUALLY WORTH IS KINDA KEEN ON YOU NOW.
WHU-? WHAT.
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?!
HAHA IT MEANS IT'LL BE EASIER TO GET YOU FOOD.
GALLAHAD HAS SOME IN HIS COAT POCKET FOR YOU.
GALLAHAD?
IT'S UM. IT'LL HELP TEMPORARILY BUT...
IF YOU EVER WANT TO GET YOUR STRENGTH COMPLETELY BACK OR GET RID OF THOSE BITE MARKS, YOU'LL HAVE TO EAT SOMETHING FRESH.
Sshh!


OH! DON'T WORRY. NO ONE WILL GET IT.
HEY
ARE YOU GONNA DRINK THIS?
CAN YOU?
NOW THAT... YANNO.
OH. NO, IT JUST FEELS WEIRD TO COME TO A BAR AND NOT ORDER ANYTH-
WAIT.
ARE YOU EVEN OLD ENOUGH?!
...
I'M 24.
AAAAARE YOU...?
really?
...


IT'S OK! I FORGIVE YOU THIS TIME.
I BET YOU'RE HUNGRY SO--
SSST!
SSST!! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
OH GOD WE'RE IN PUBLIC!!
BUT NO ONE IS REALLY AROUND EXCEPT-
HIM.
HANNA! ARE YOU BEING WEIRD AT MY CUSTOMERS AGAIN?!
OHF#CK ME YOU CAME OUTTA NOWHERE
NOooo.
ARE YOU SURE. YOU'RE ACTING PRETTY WEIRD TO ME.


IS HE BOTHERING YOU, SIR?
I'M NOT!
HRM.
I GUESS I CAN GIVE THIS TO YOU THEN.
A GIRL CAME BY TO DROP IT OFF EARLIER.
OH
AWKWARD
A GIRL? ♥
...DON'T GET TOO EXCITED YET. IT COULD JUST BE A RESTRAINING ORDER.



Dear Mr Cross,

I heard from a friend that you deal with things that are not always of this world. In the Ives theatre on Hutton and Bradford, I think there may be something a bit of that nature we could use a bit of help with. So far, it likes to break things when our lead sings out of tune (which is often). Can you please check it out? Here's the address.

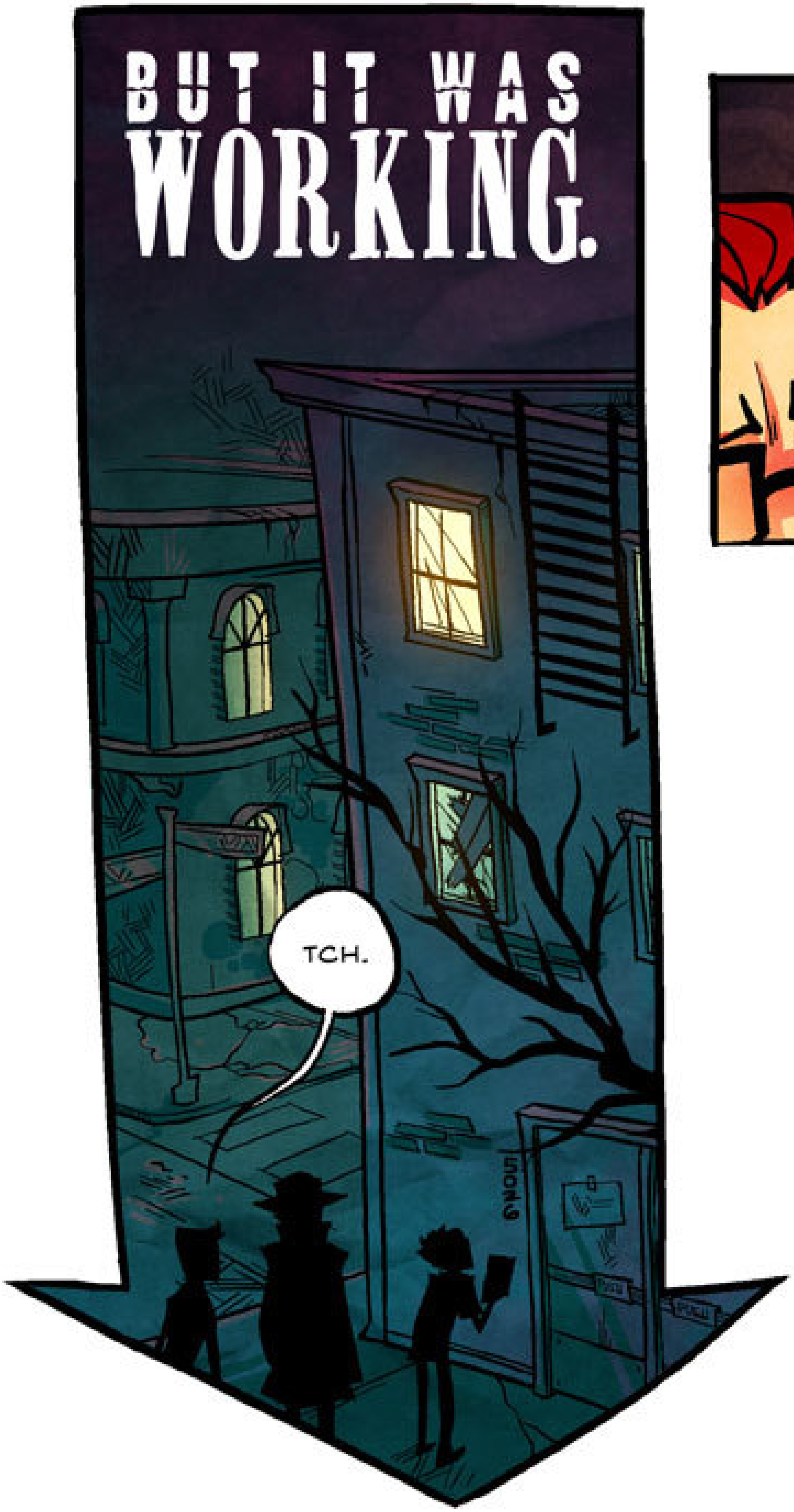
Ives theatre
5026 Hutton pkwy
(next to the 7-11)

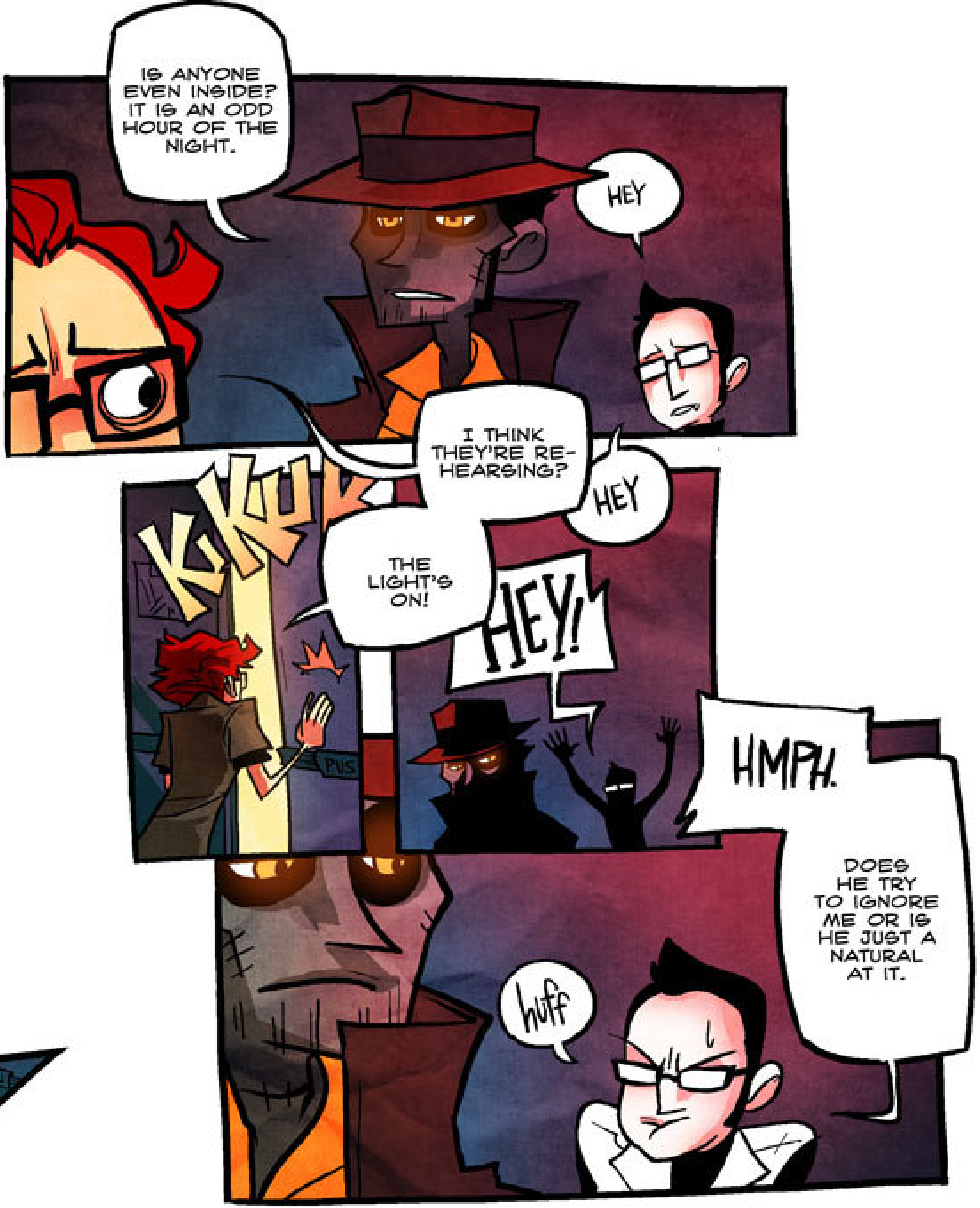
Thanks!
Toni

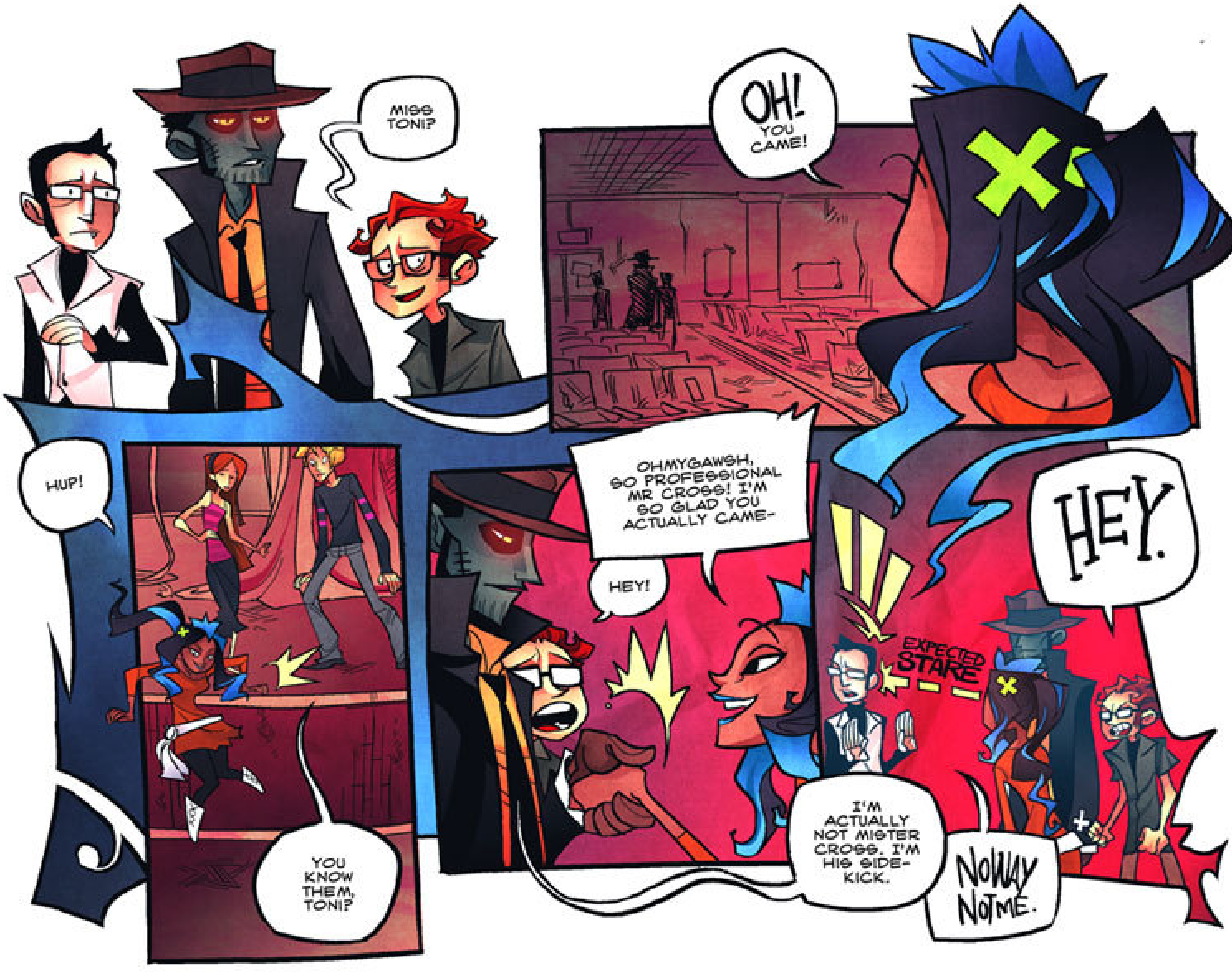
PS: I'm not really rich, but I can buy dinner. Sorry.

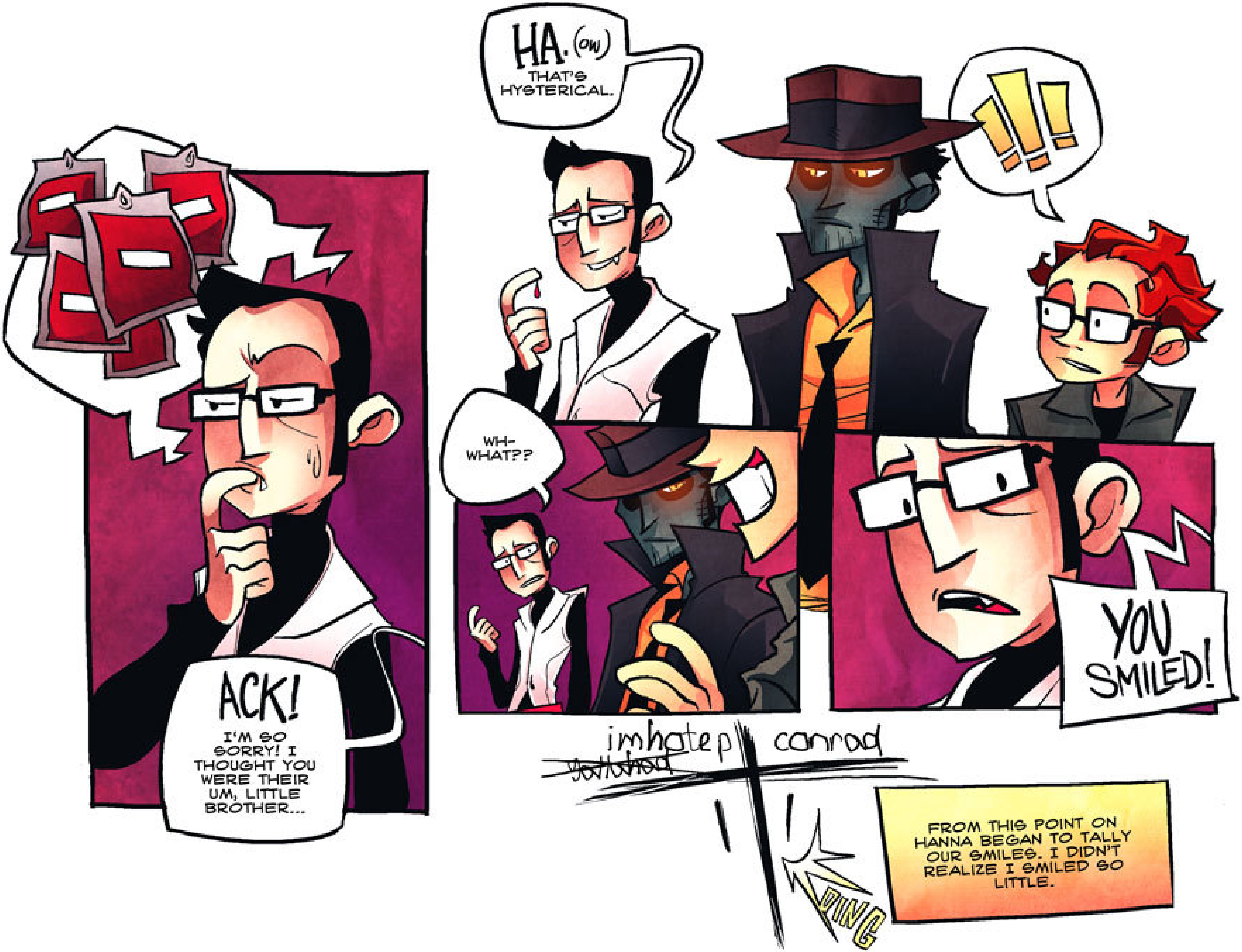
DINNER!!
WAIT!!
YOU HAVE MY-
my
...
YOUR WHAT.
WE SHOULD BE GOING AFTER HIM.

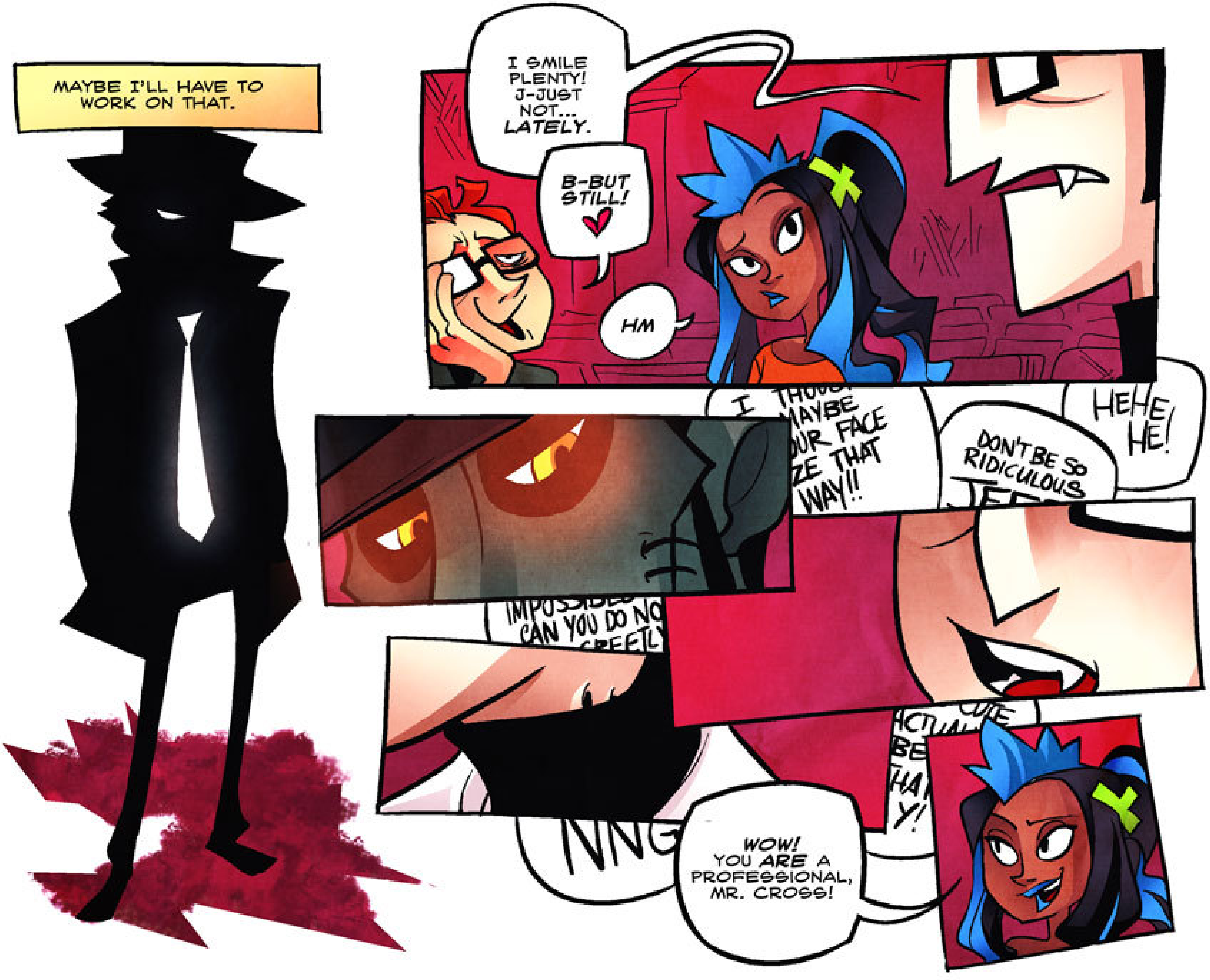
I COULD NEVER REALLY TELL IF HANNA MEANT TO KEEP DRAGGING CONRAD ALONG, OR IF IT WAS A BYPRODUCT OF HIS EAGERNESS...

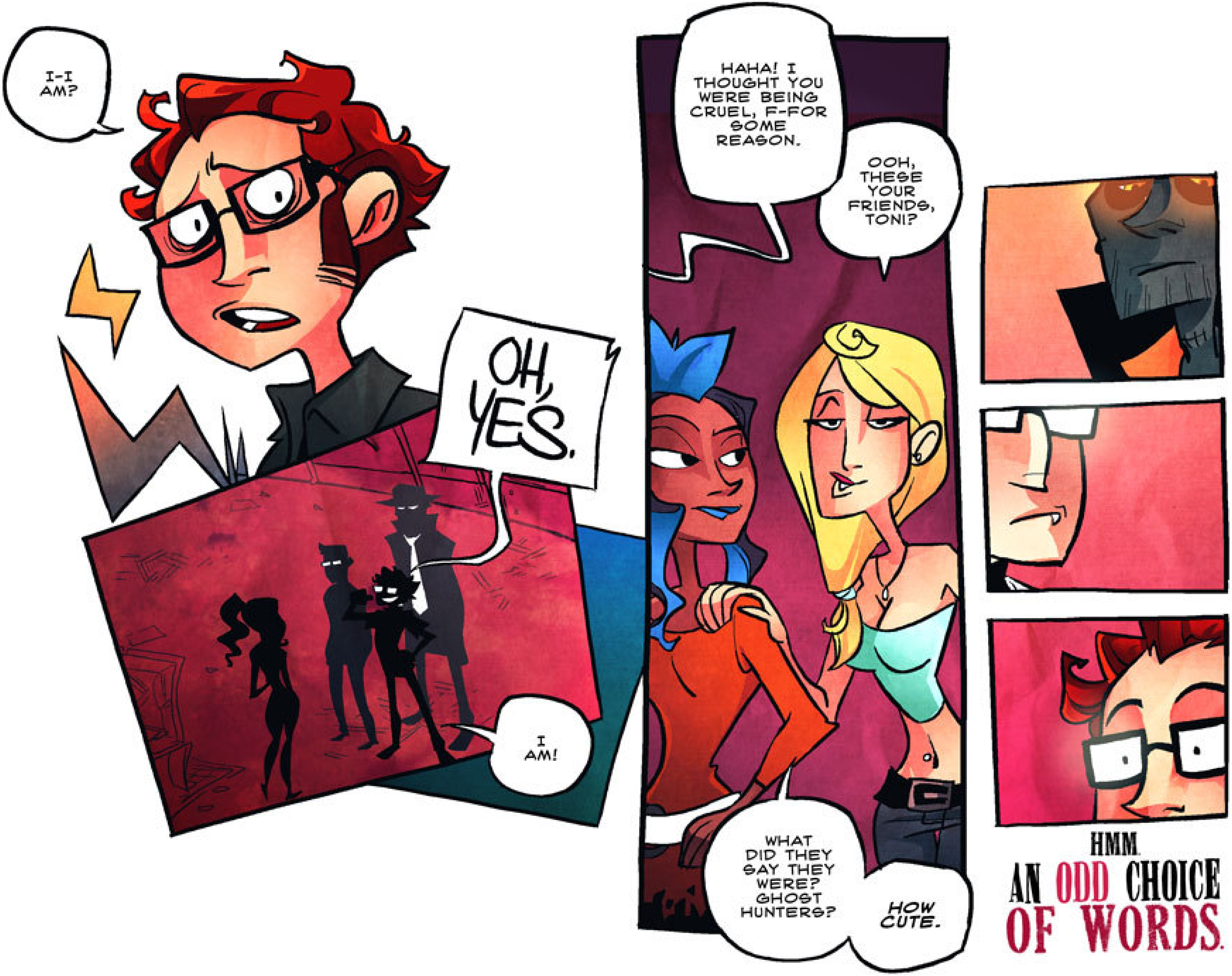

BUT IT WAS
WORKING.
TCH.

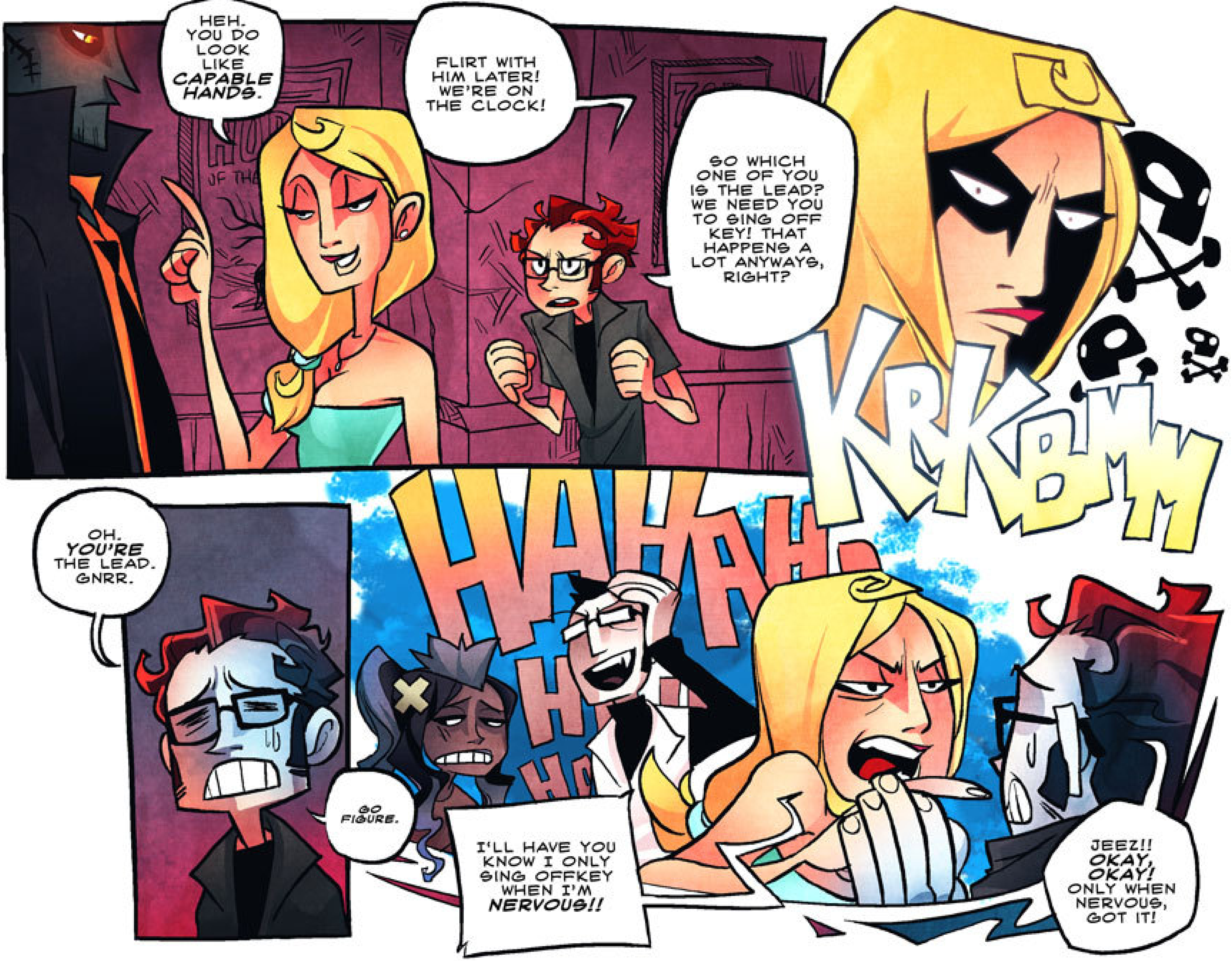

IS ANYONE EVEN INSIDE? IT IS AN ODD HOUR OF THE NIGHT.
HEY
I THINK THEY'RE REHEARSING?
HEY
THE LIGHT'S ON!
HEY!
HMPH.
huff
DOES HE TRY TO IGNORE ME OR IS HE JUST A NATURAL AT IT.

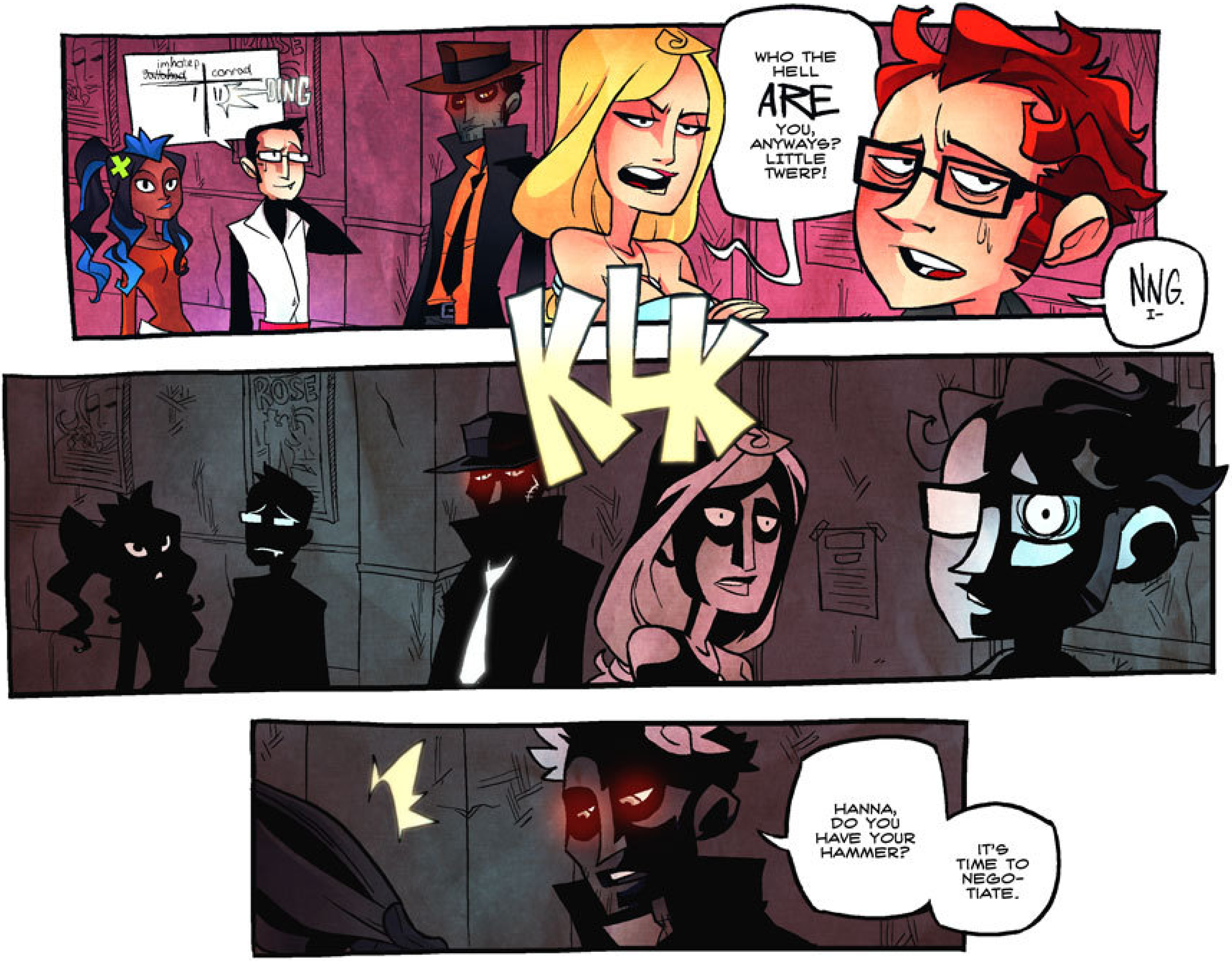

MISS TONI?
OH! YOU CAME!
HUP!
OHMYGAWSH, SO PROFESSIONAL MR CROSS! I'M SO GLAD YOU ACTUALLY CAME-
HEY!
HEY.
EXPECTED STARE
YOU KNOW THEM, TONI?
I'M ACTUALLY NOT MISTER CROSS. I'M HIS SIDE-KICK.
NO WAY NOT ME.

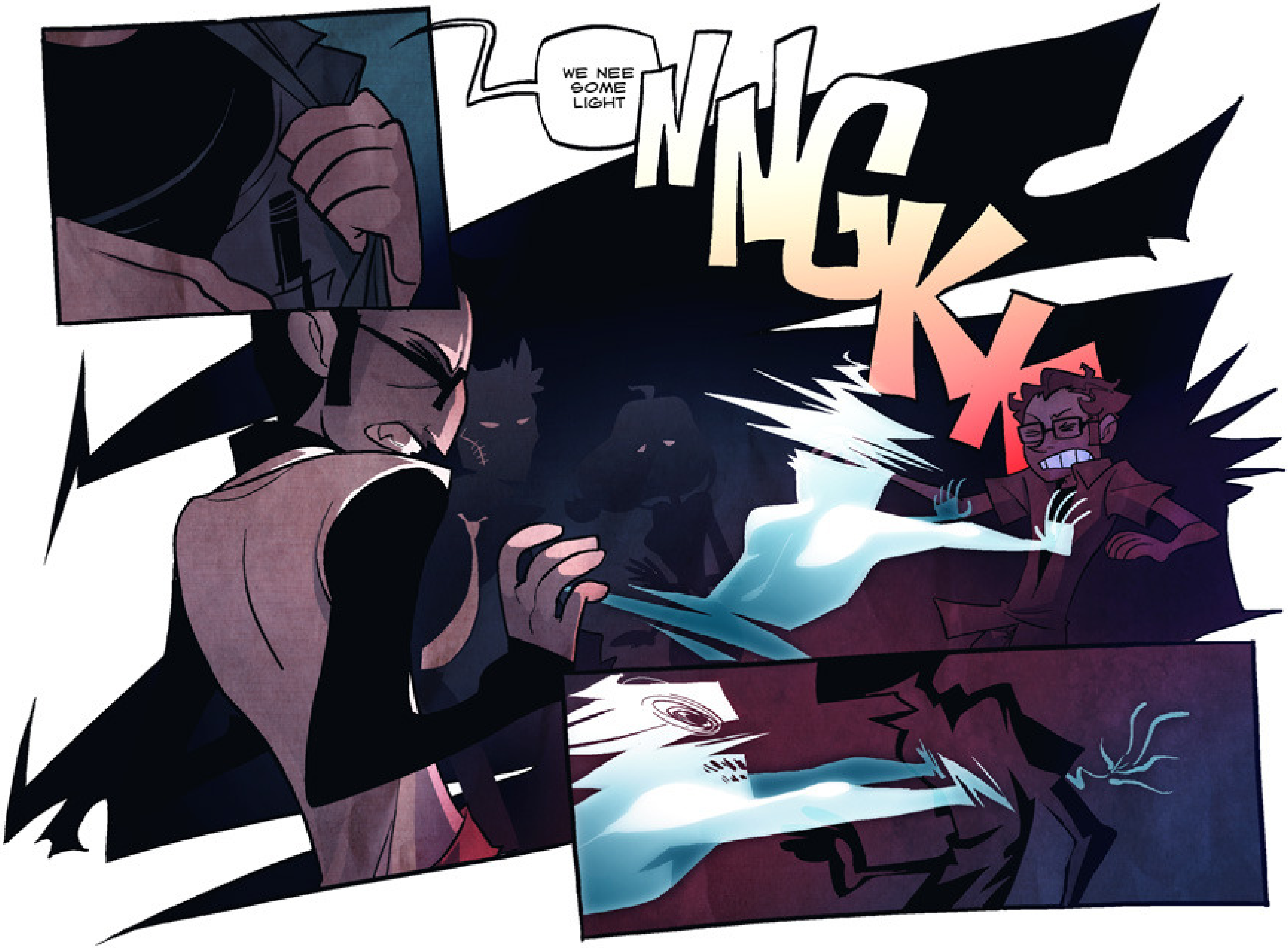

ACK!
I'M SO SORRY! I THOUGHT YOU WERE THEIR UM, LITTLE BROTHER...
HA. (OW) THAT'S HYSTERICAL.
!!!
WH- WHAT??
YOU SMILED!
imhotep
conrad
DING
FROM THIS POINT ON HANNA BEGAN TO TALLY OUR SMILES. I DIDN'T REALIZE I SMILED SO LITTLE.

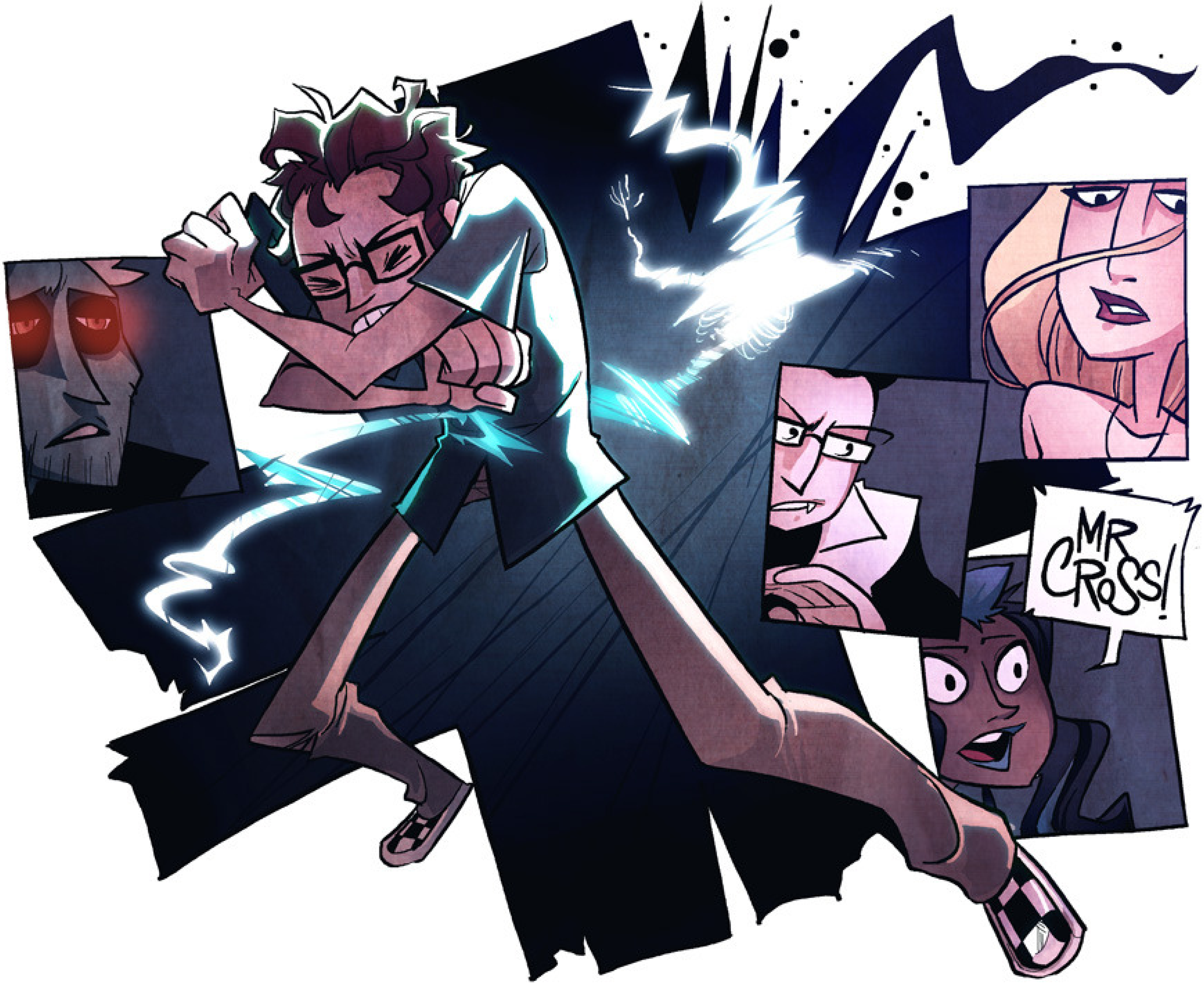

MAYBE I'LL HAVE TO WORK ON THAT.
I SMILE PLENTY! J-JUST NOT... *LATELY*.
B-BUT STILL! ♥
HM
HEHE HE!
DON'T BE SO RIDICULOUS JE
I THOU MAYBE OUR FACE ZE THAT WAY!!
IMPOSSIB CAN YOU DO NO CREETLY
CUTE ACTU BE THA Y!
NNG
WOW! YOU **ARE** A PROFESSIONAL, MR. CROSS!

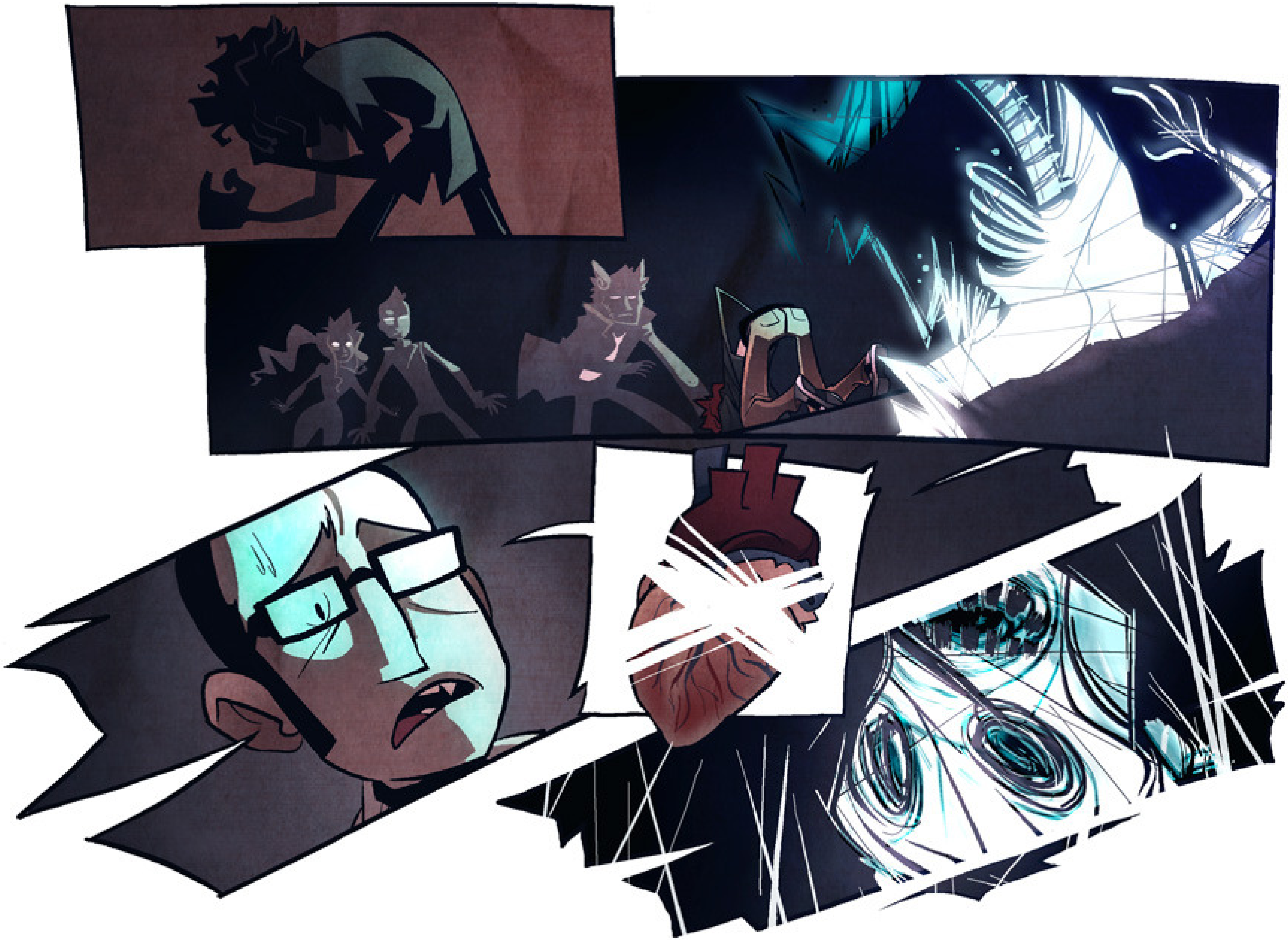

I-I AM?
OH, YES.
I AM!
HAHA! I THOUGHT YOU WERE BEING CRUEL, F-FOR SOME REASON.
OOH, THESE YOUR FRIENDS, TONI?
WHAT DID THEY SAY THEY WERE? GHOST HUNTERS?
HOW CUTE.
HMM.
AN ODD CHOICE OF WORDS.

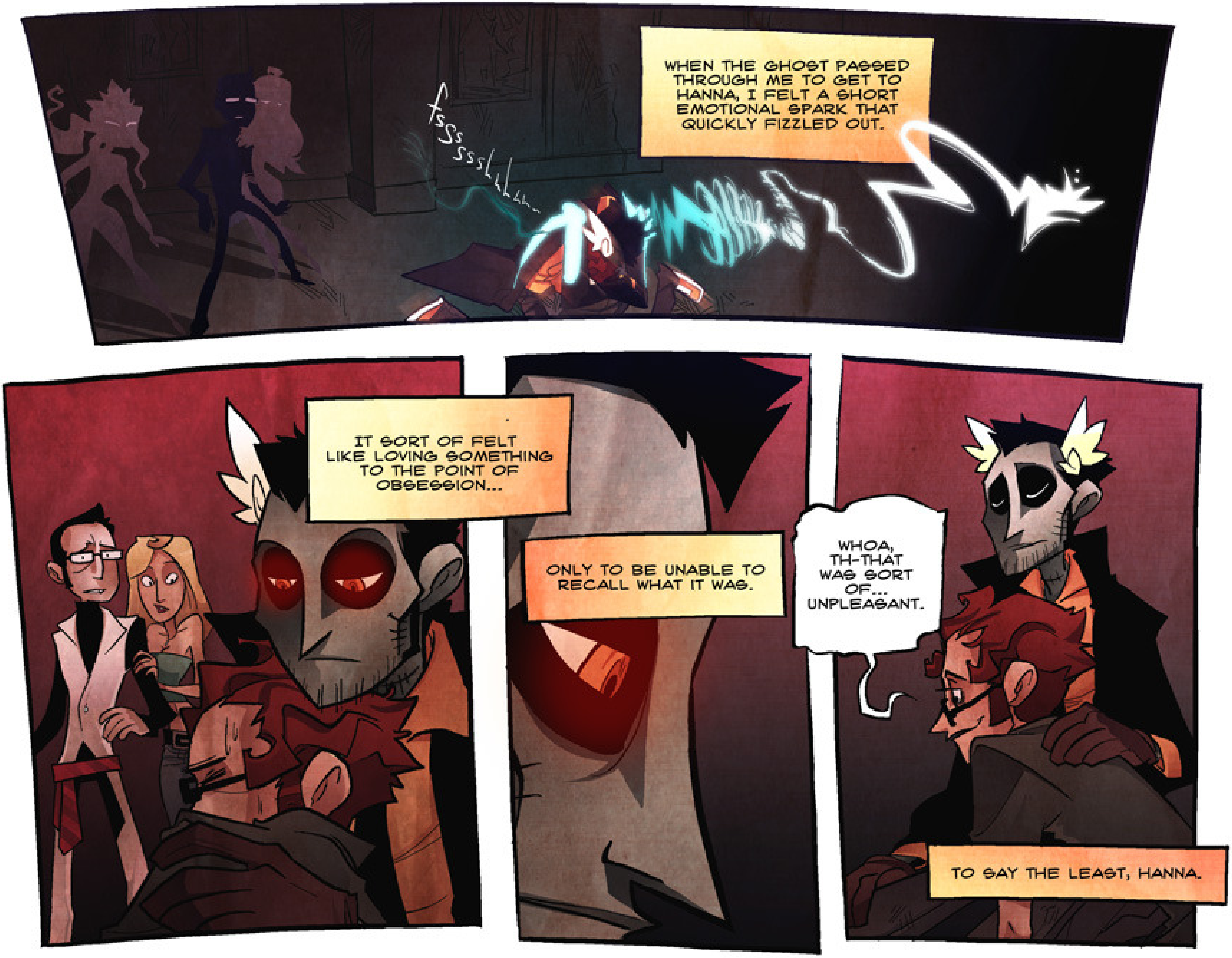

HEH. YOU DO LOOK LIKE *CAPABLE HANDS*.
FLIRT WITH HIM LATER! WE'RE ON THE CLOCK!
SO WHICH ONE OF YOU IS THE LEAD? WE NEED YOU TO SING OFF KEY! THAT HAPPENS A LOT ANYWAYS, RIGHT?
KRKBMM
OH. *YOU'RE* THE LEAD. GNRR.
HAHAH
HA
HA
GO FIGURE.
I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW I ONLY SING OFFKEY WHEN I'M *NERVOUS!!*
JEEZ!! *OKAY, OKAY!* ONLY WHEN NERVOUS, GOT IT!

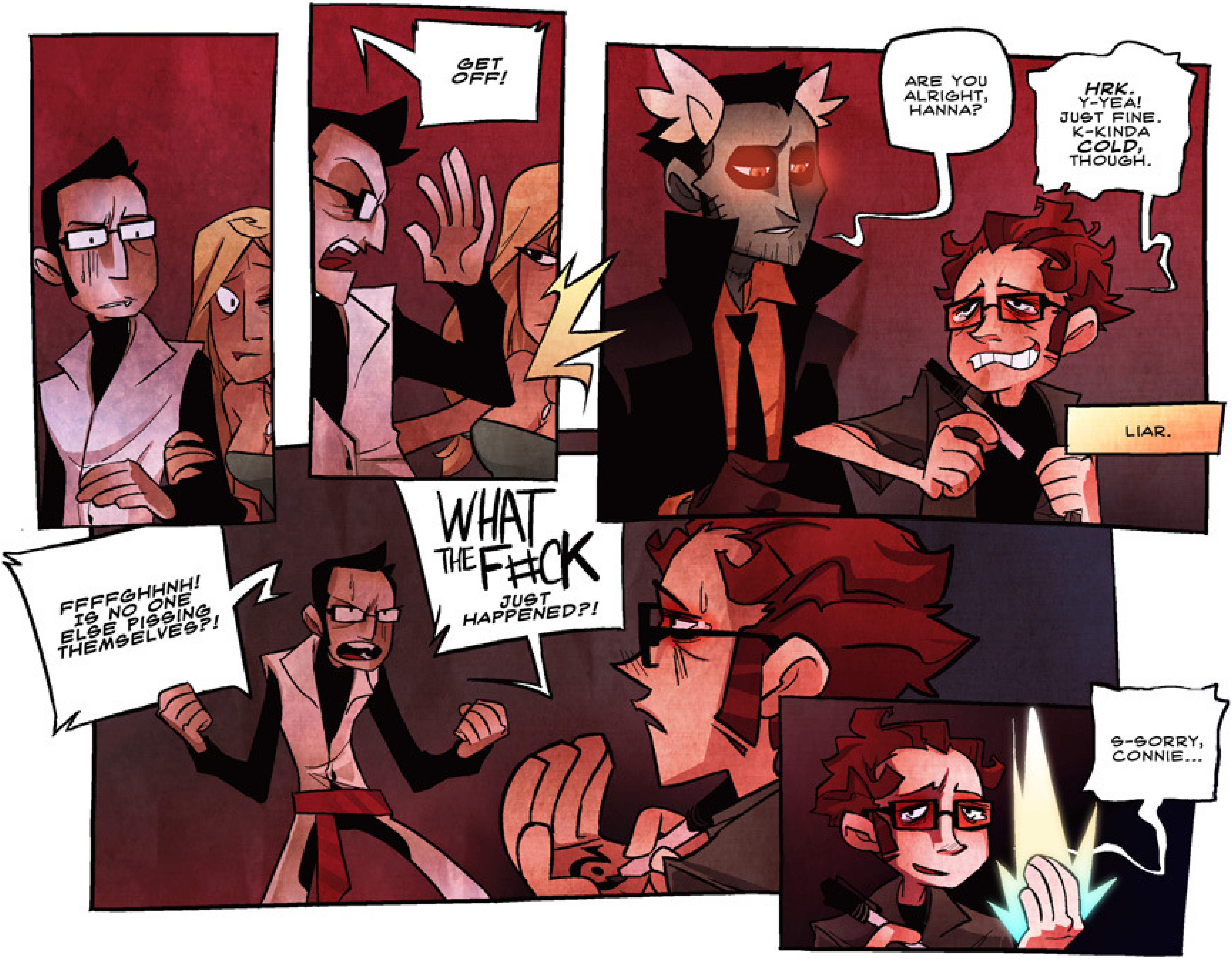
imhotep
conrad
I
II
DING
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU, ANYWAYS? LITTLE TWERP!
NNG. I-
KLK
ROSE
HANNA, DO YOU HAVE YOUR HAMMER?
IT'S TIME TO NEGOTIATE.

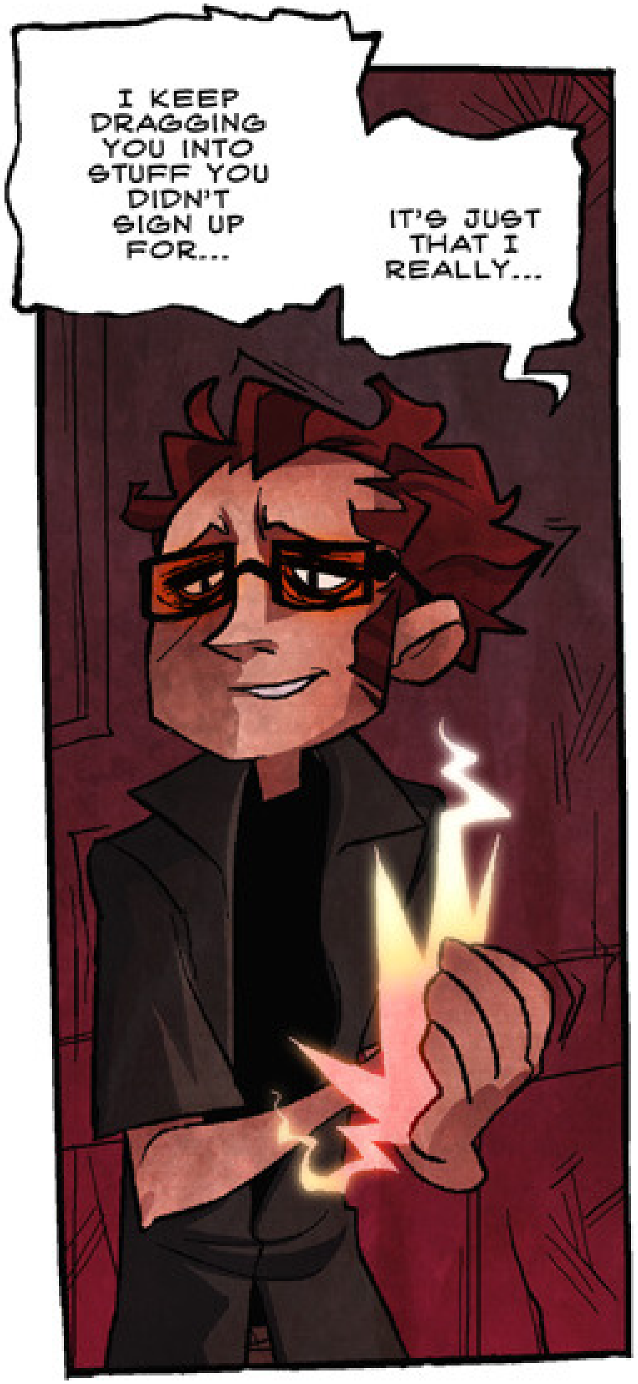

WE NEE SOME LIGHT
NNGKK

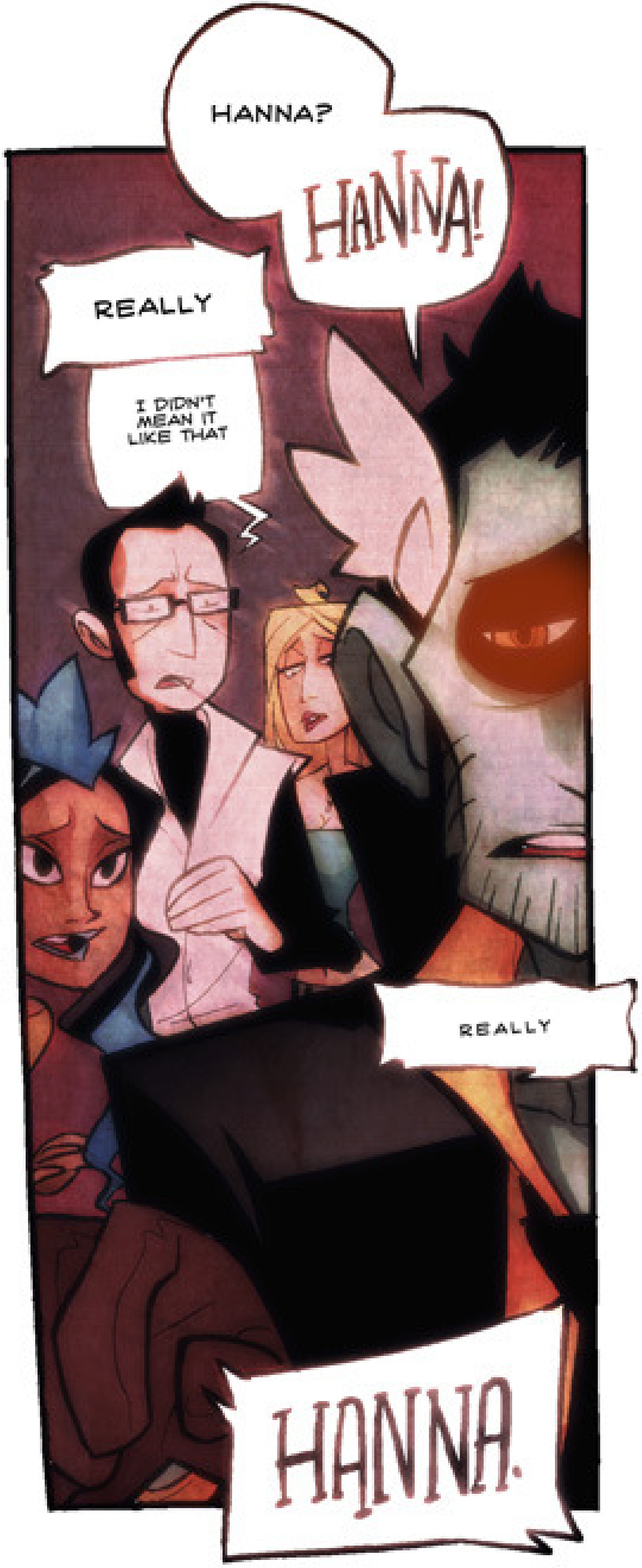

MR CROSS!



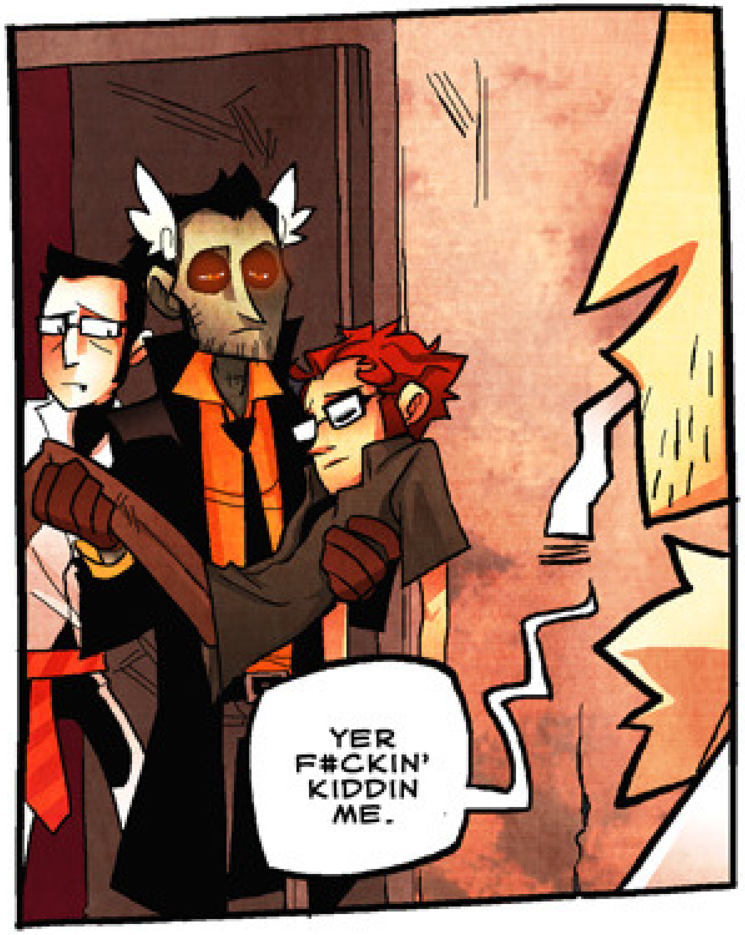

fsSsssshhhh...
WHEN THE GHOST PASSED THROUGH ME TO GET TO HANNA, I FELT A SHORT EMOTIONAL SPARK THAT QUICKLY FIZZLED OUT.
IT SORT OF FELT LIKE LOVING SOMETHING TO THE POINT OF OBSESSION...
ONLY TO BE UNABLE TO RECALL WHAT IT WAS.
WHOA, TH-THAT WAS SORT OF... UNPLEASANT.
TO SAY THE LEAST, HANNA.

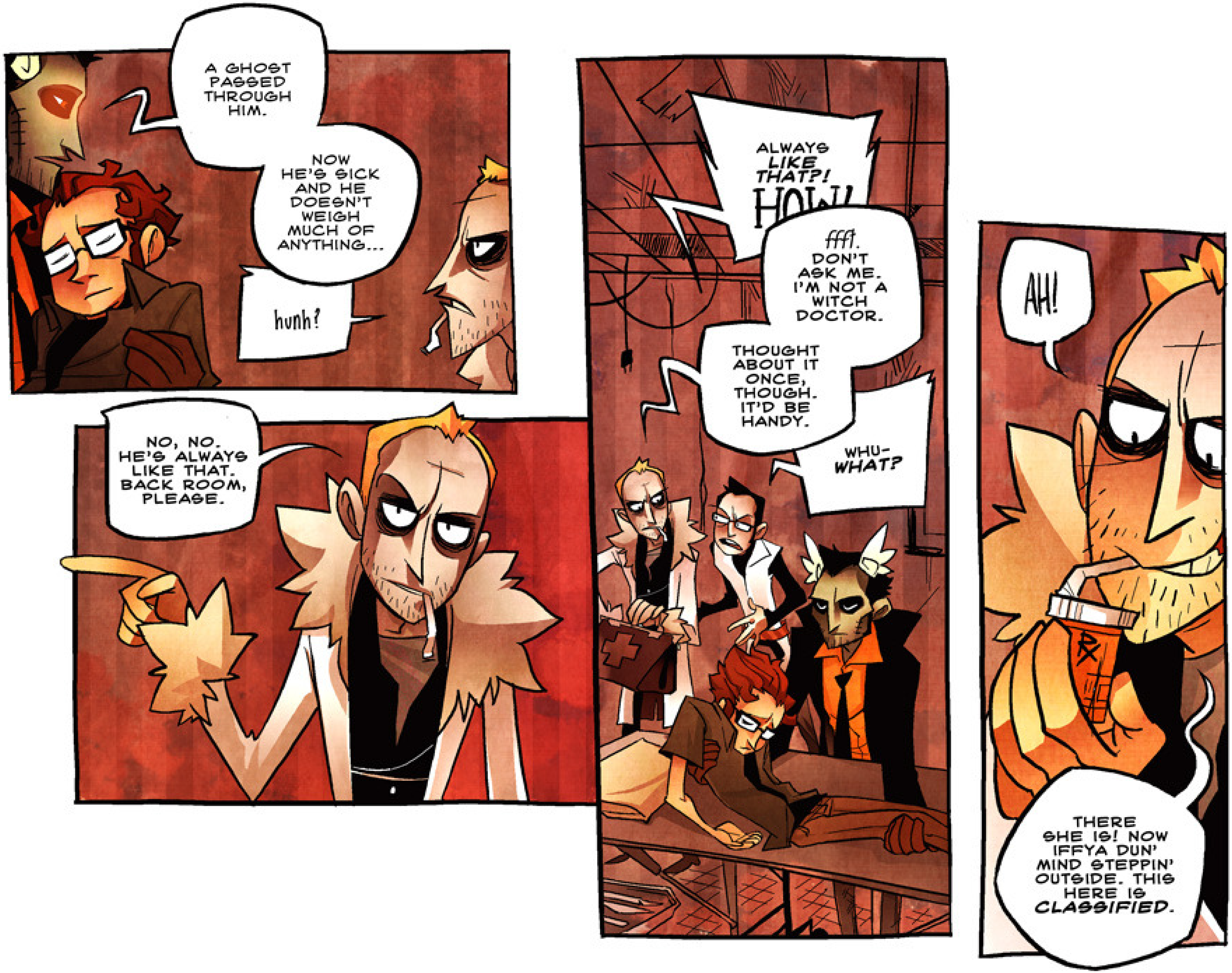

GET OFF!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT, HANNA?
HRK. Y-YEA! JUST FINE. K-KINDA COLD, THOUGH.
LIAR.
FFFFGHHNH! IS NO ONE ELSE PISSING THEMSELVES?!
WHAT THE F#CK JUST HAPPENED?!
S-SORRY, CONNIE...

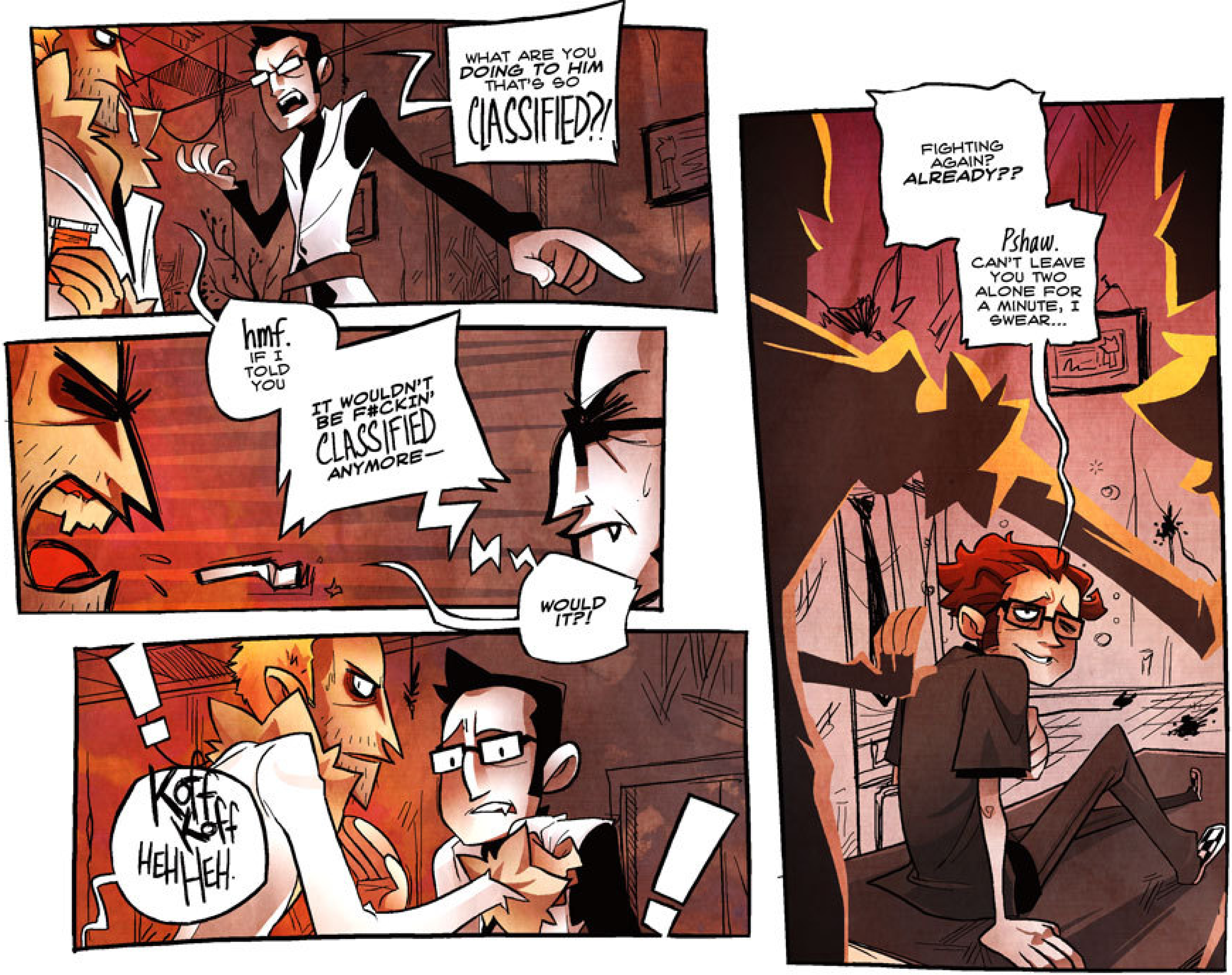

I KEEP DRAGGING YOU INTO STUFF YOU DIDN'T SIGN UP FOR...
IT'S JUST THAT I REALLY...

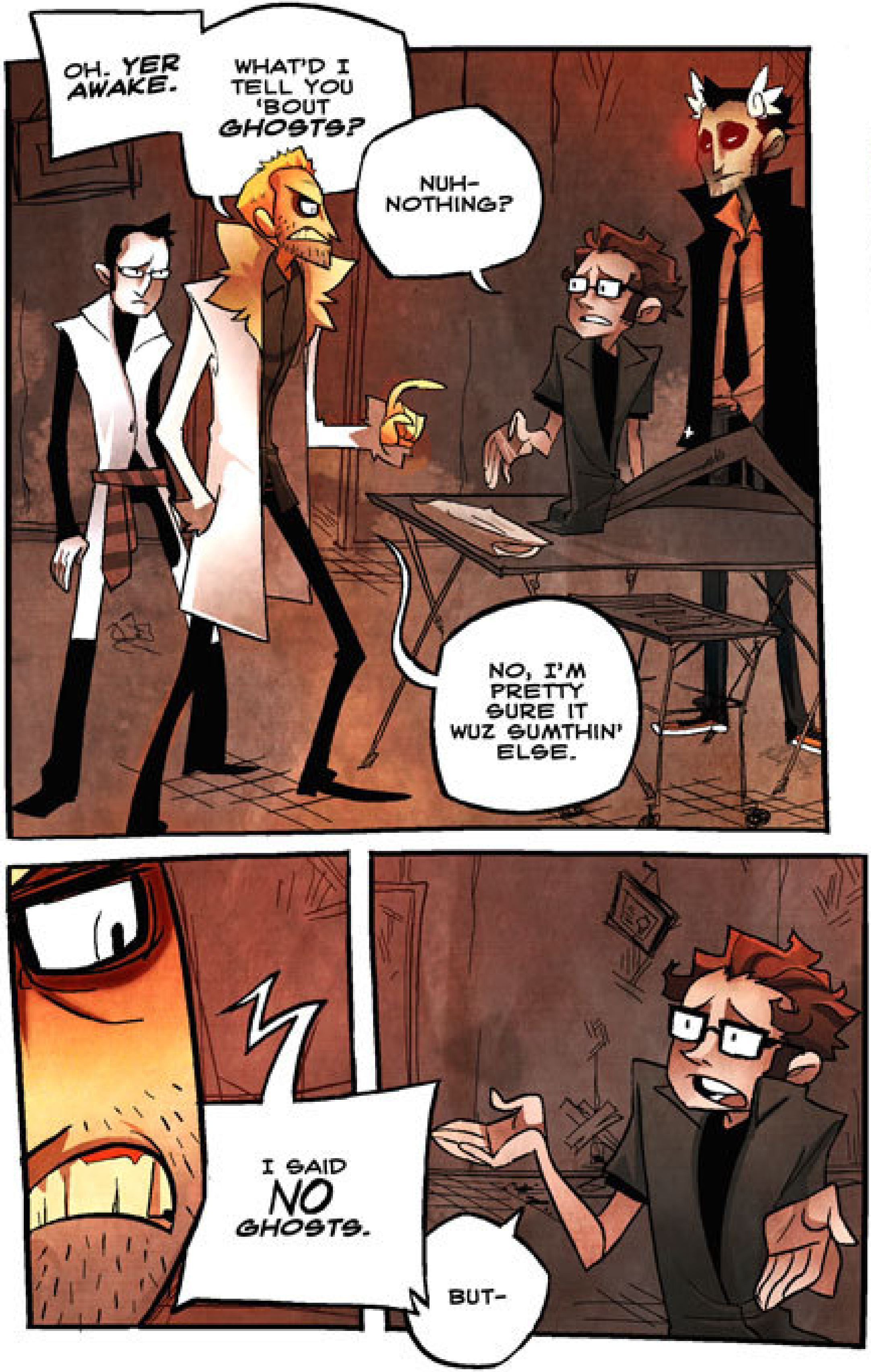

HANNA?
HANNA!
REALLY
I DIDN'T MEAN IT LIKE THAT
REALLY
HANNA.

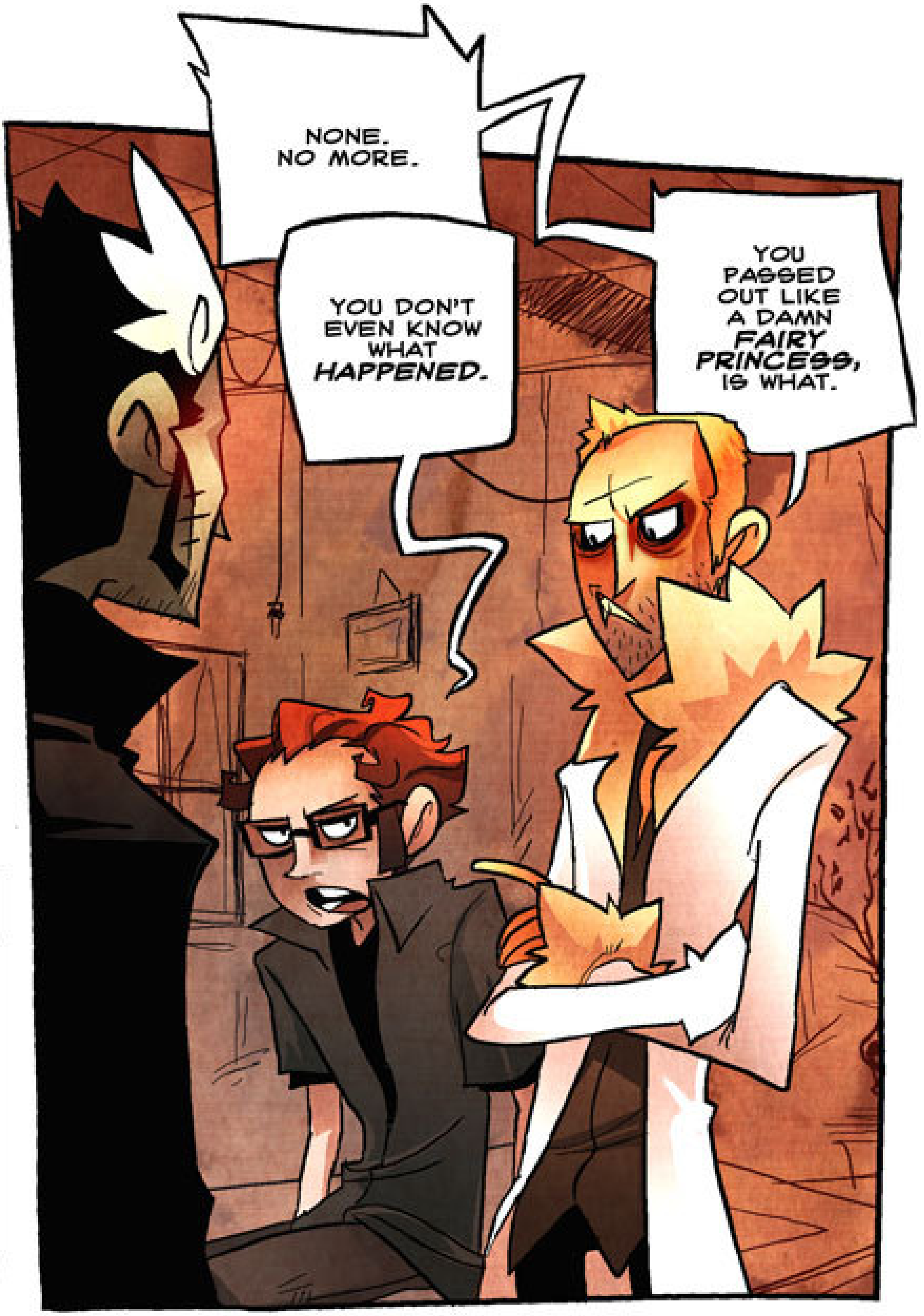
Conrad insisted that we should take him to the hospital, but I couldn't shake this nagging feeling that there was a reason he saw Doc Worth.

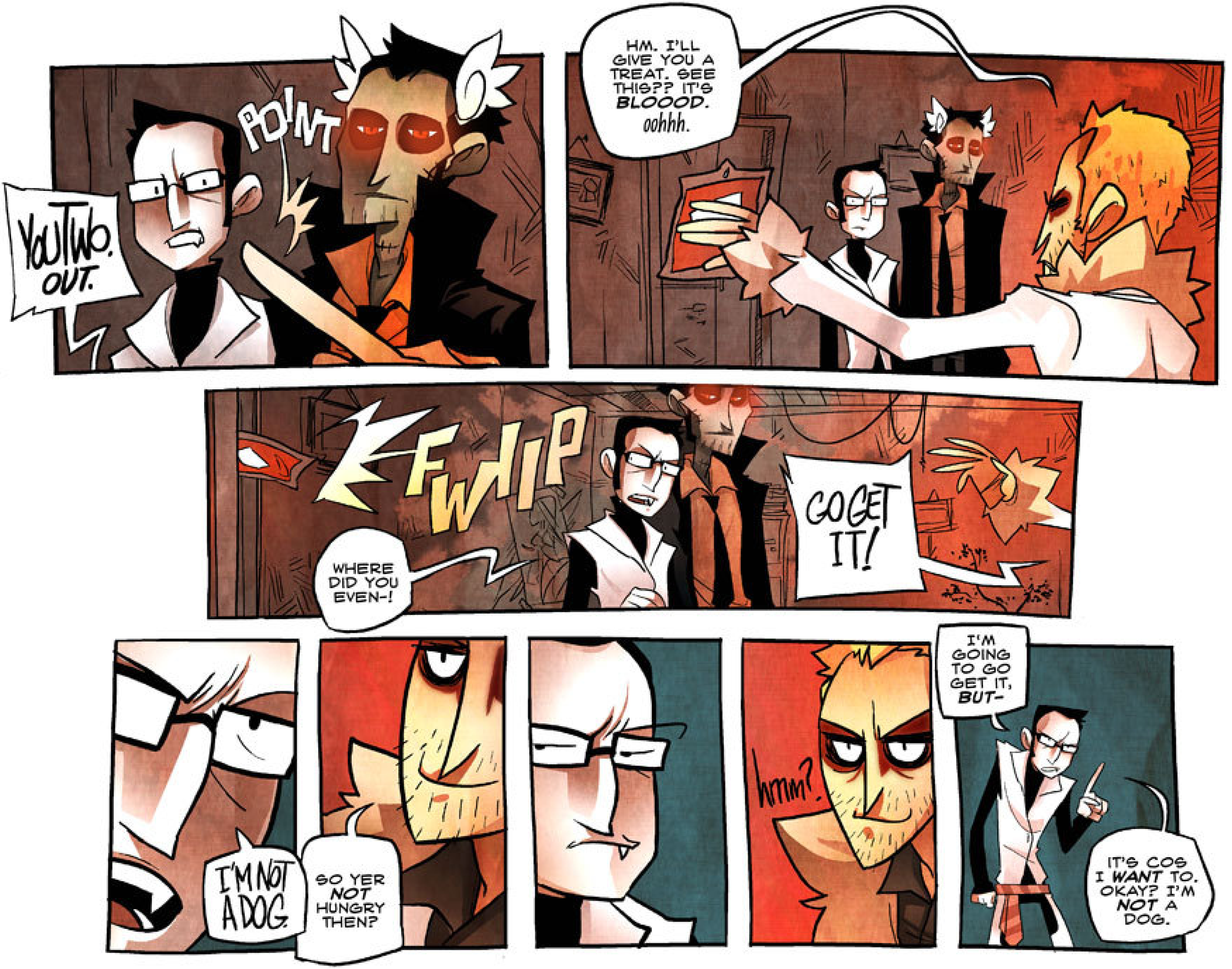

YER F#CKIN' KIDDIN ME.

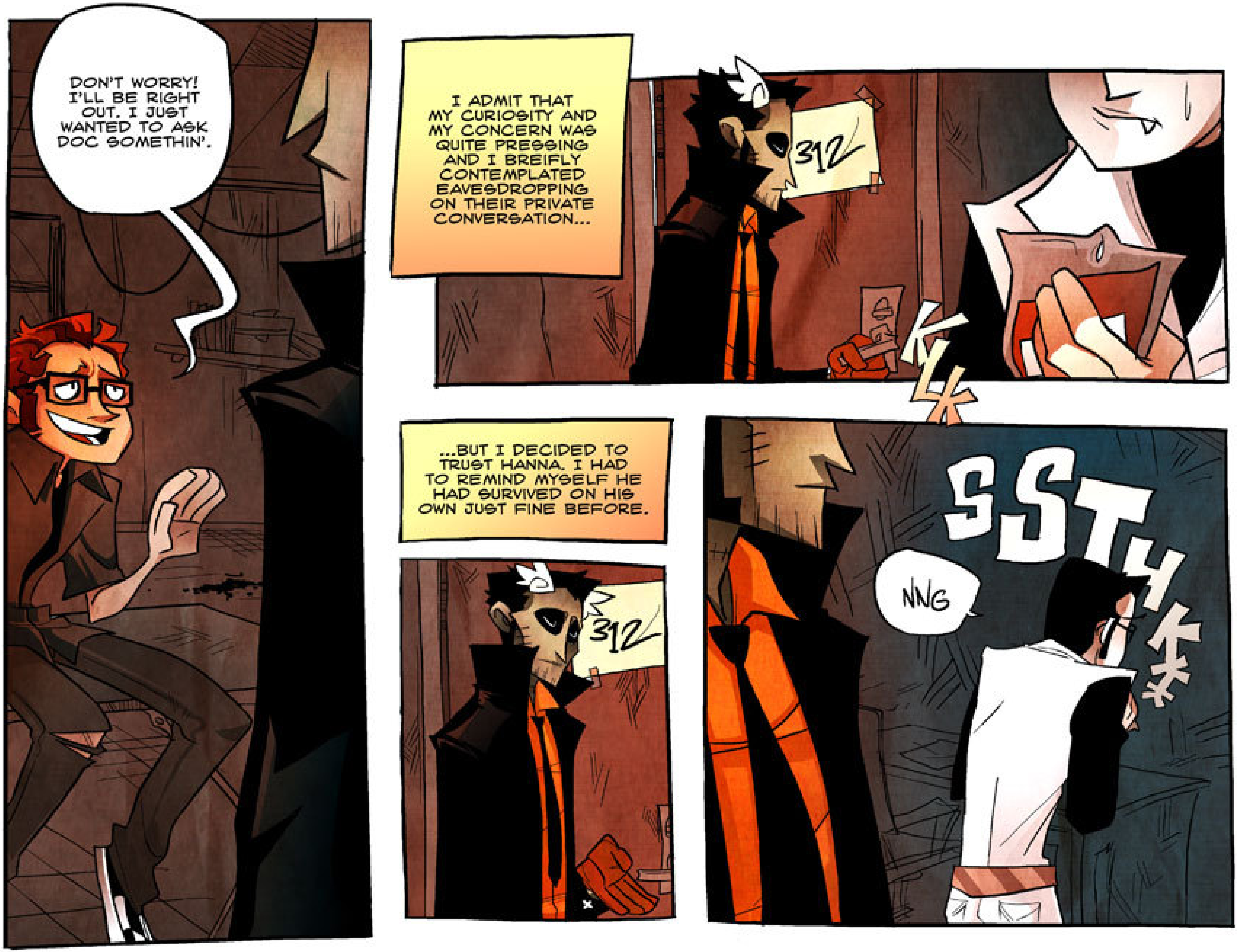

A GHOST PASSED THROUGH HIM.
NOW HE'S SICK AND HE DOESN'T WEIGH MUCH OF ANYTHING...
hunh?
NO, NO. HE'S ALWAYS LIKE THAT. BACK ROOM, PLEASE.
ALWAYS *LIKE THAT?!* HOW
ffft. DON'T ASK ME. I'M NOT A WITCH DOCTOR.
THOUGHT ABOUT IT ONCE, THOUGH. IT'D BE HANDY.
WHU- *WHAT?*
AH!
RX
THERE SHE IS! NOW IFFYA DUN' MIND STEPPIN' OUTSIDE. THIS HERE IS *CLASSIFIED.*

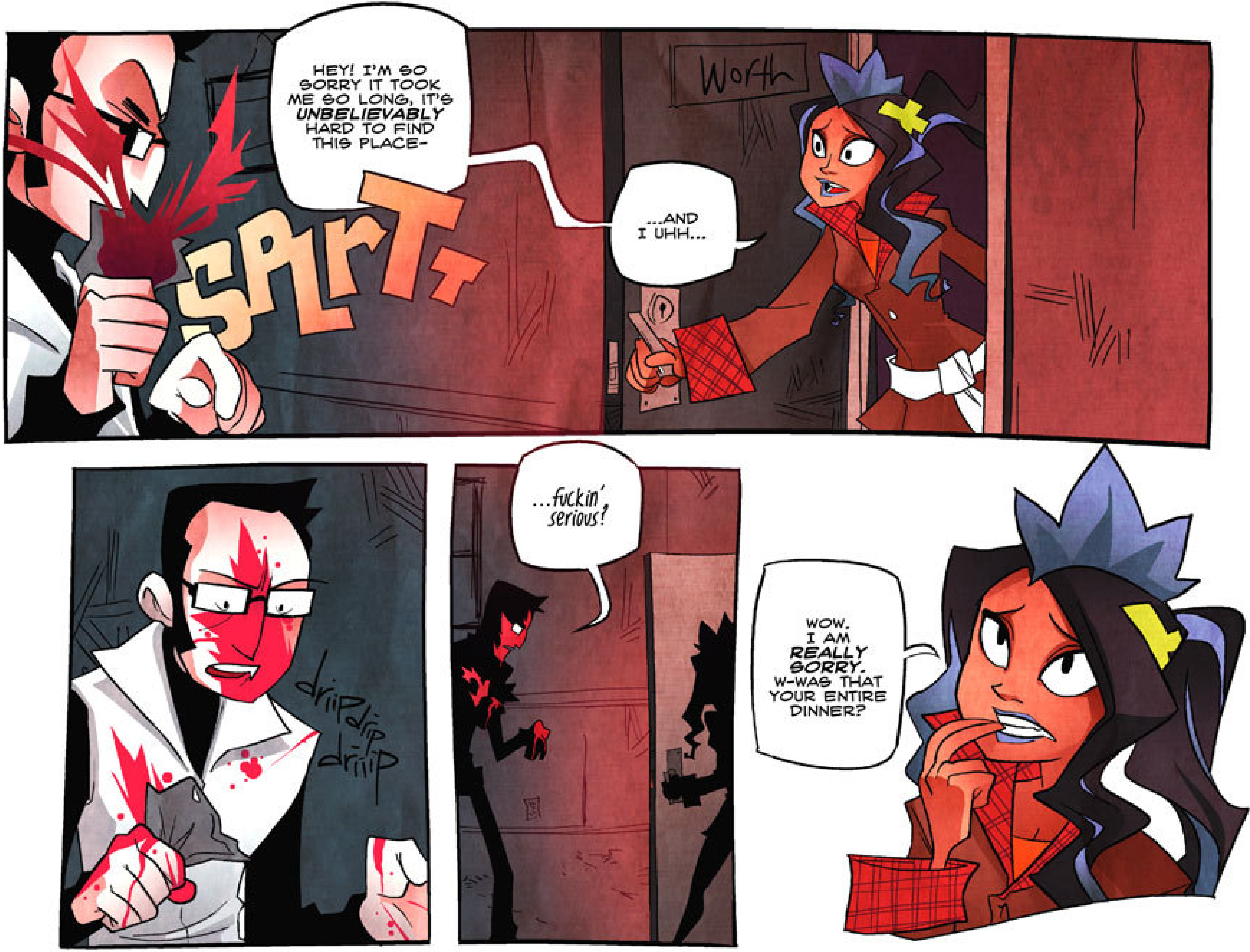

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO HIM THAT'S SO CLASSIFIED?!
hmf. IF I TOLD YOU
IT WOULDN'T BE F#CKIN' CLASSIFIED ANYMORE—
WOULD IT?!
Koff Koff HEH HEH.
FIGHTING AGAIN? ALREADY??
Pshaw. CAN'T LEAVE YOU TWO ALONE FOR A MINUTE, I SWEAR...

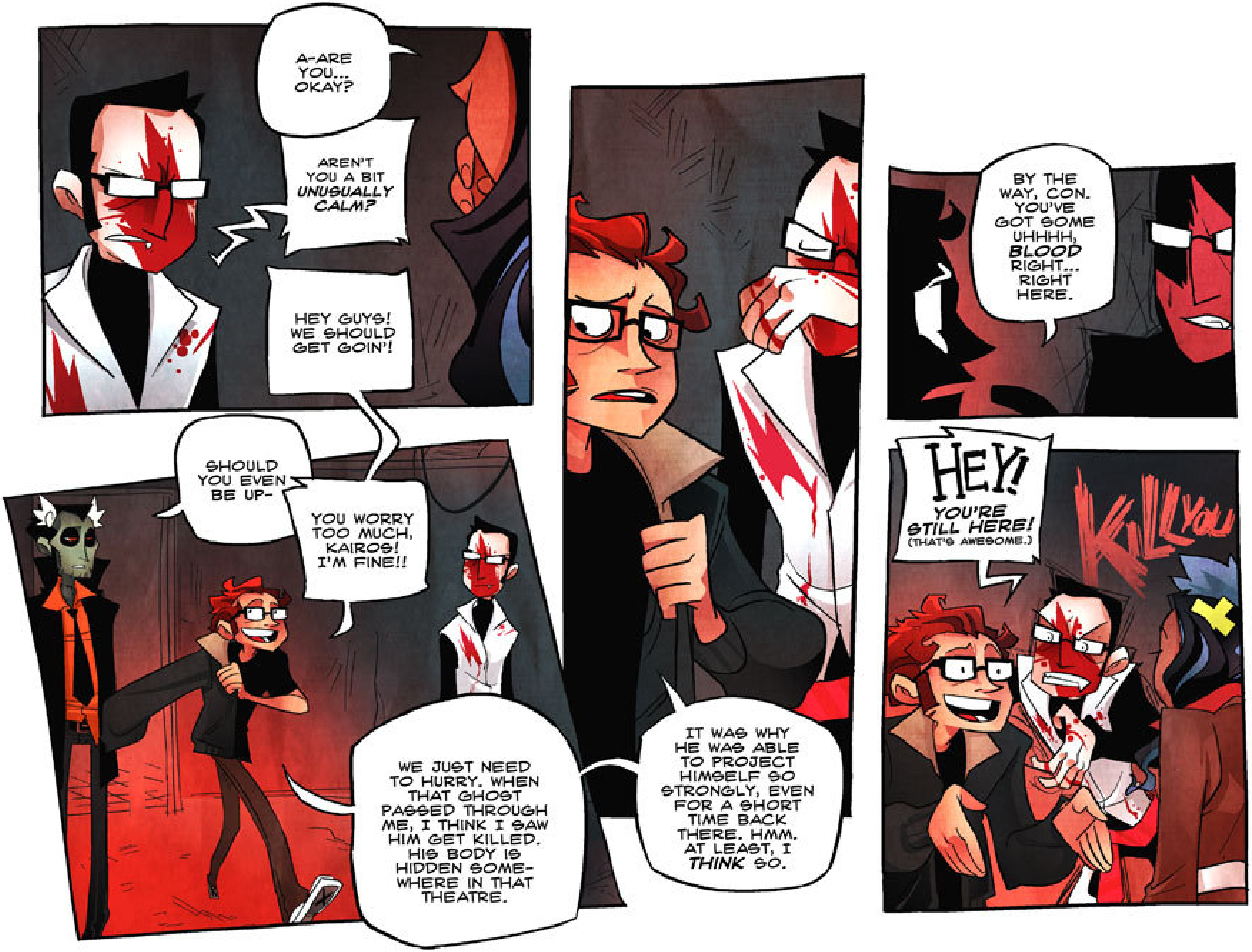

OH. YER AWAKE.
WHAT'D I TELL YOU 'BOUT GHOSTS?
NUH-NOTHING?
NO, I'M PRETTY SURE IT WUZ SUMTHIN' ELSE.
I SAID NO GHOSTS.
BUT-

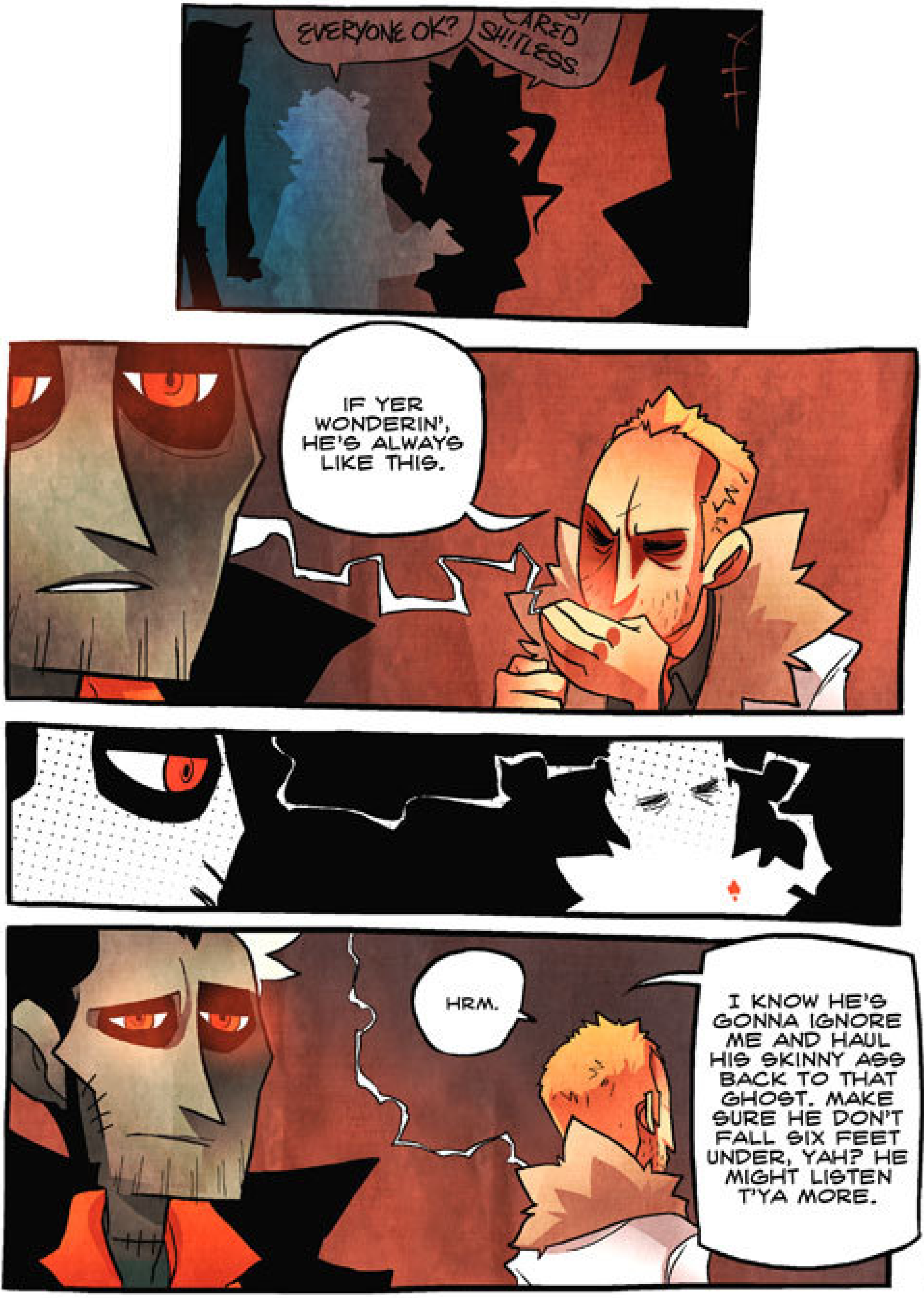

NONE. NO MORE.
YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT HAPPENED.
YOU PASSED OUT LIKE A DAMN FAIRY PRINCESS, IS WHAT.

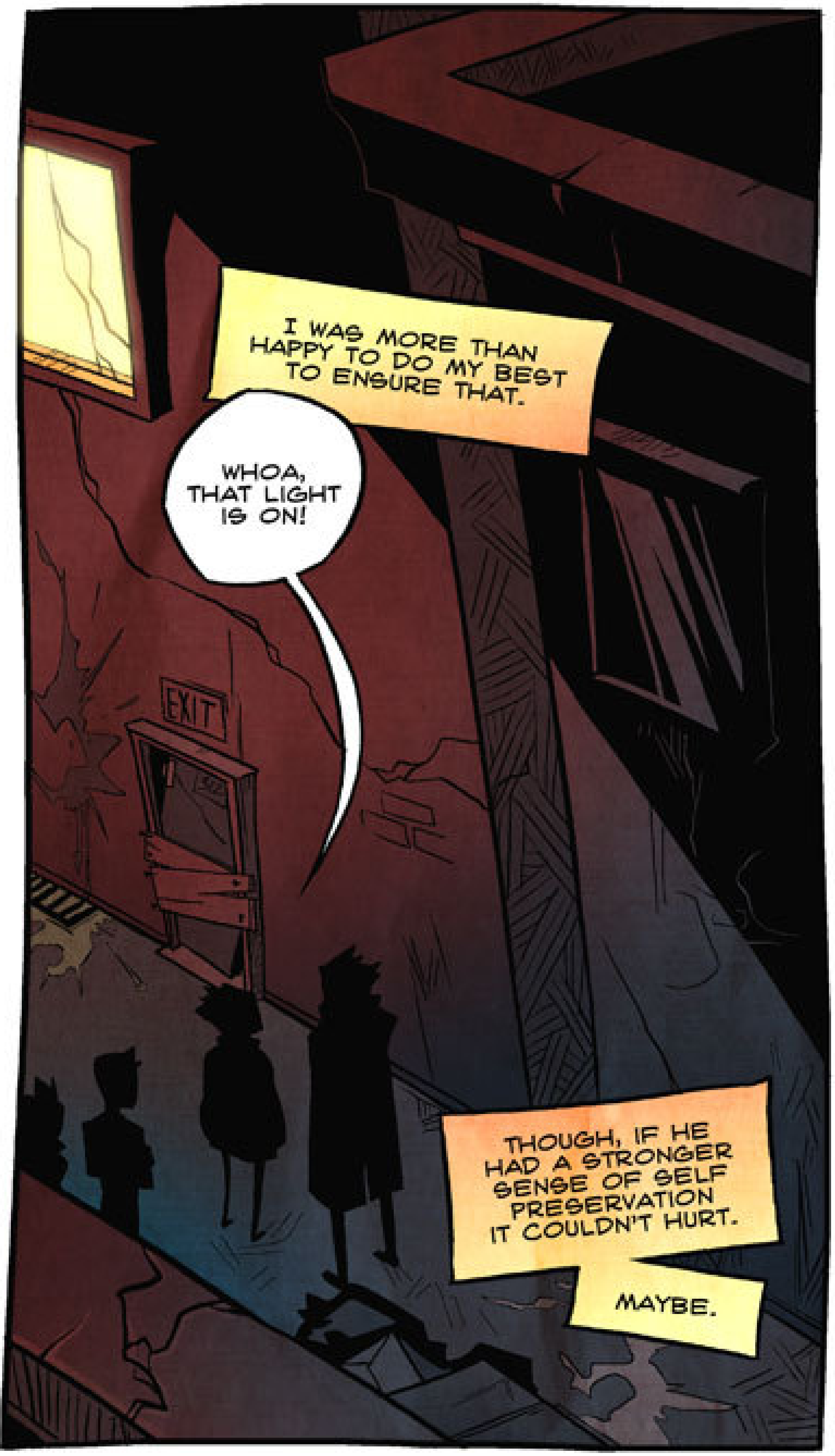

YOU TWO. OUT.
POINT
HM. I'LL GIVE YOU A TREAT. SEE THIS?? IT'S *BLOOOD.* oohhh.
FWIP
WHERE DID YOU EVEN-!
GO GET IT!
I'M NOT A DOG.
SO YER *NOT* HUNGRY THEN?
hmm?
I'M GOING TO GO GET IT, *BUT-*
IT'S COS I *WANT* TO. OKAY? I'M *NOT* A DOG.

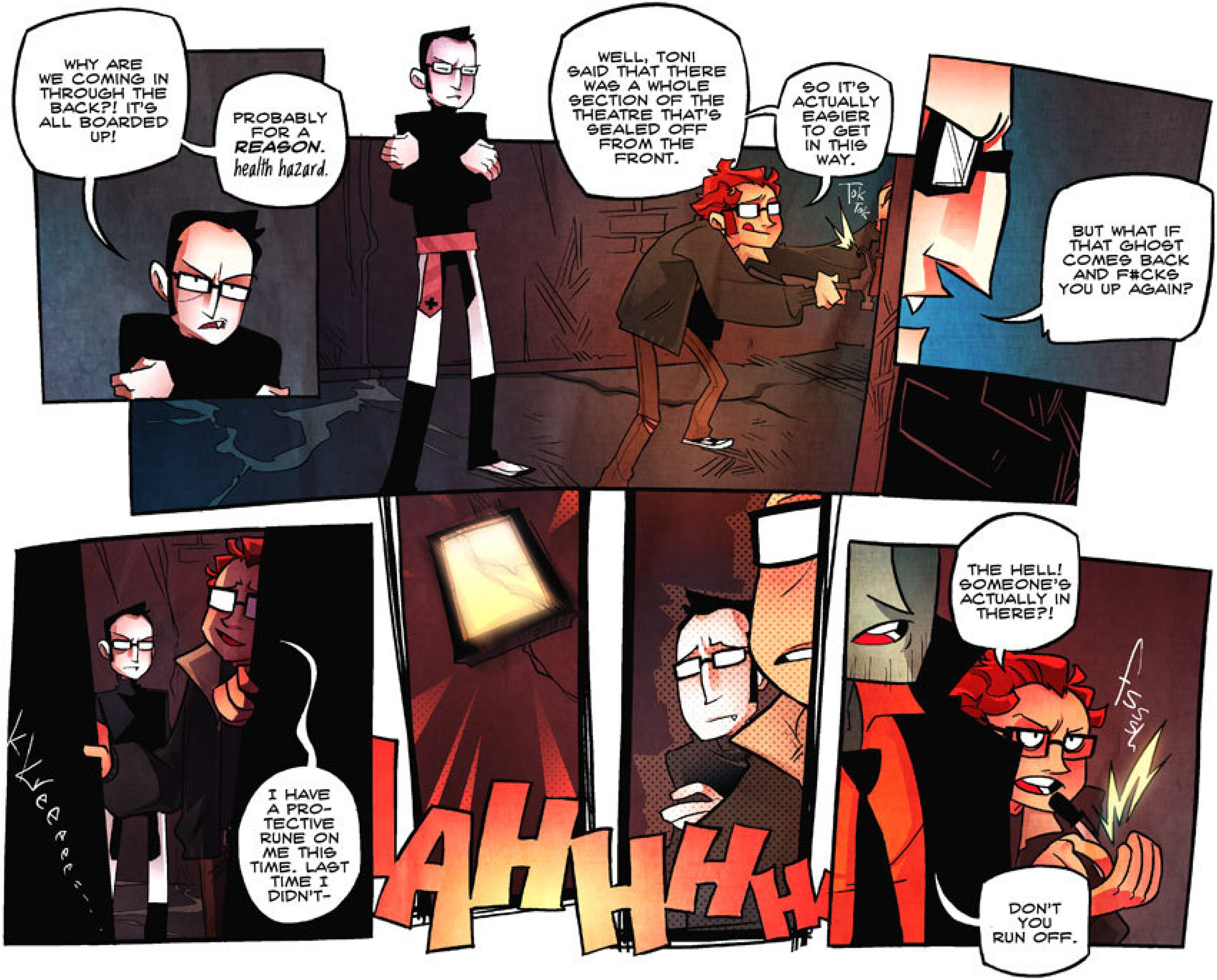

DON'T WORRY! I'LL BE RIGHT OUT. I JUST WANTED TO ASK DOC SOMETHIN'.
I ADMIT THAT MY CURIOSITY AND MY CONCERN WAS QUITE PRESSING AND I BREIFLY CONTEMPLATED EAVESDROPPING ON THEIR PRIVATE CONVERSATION...
312
KLK
...BUT I DECIDED TO TRUST HANNA. I HAD TO REMIND MYSELF HE HAD SURVIVED ON HIS OWN JUST FINE BEFORE.
312
SSTHKK
NNG

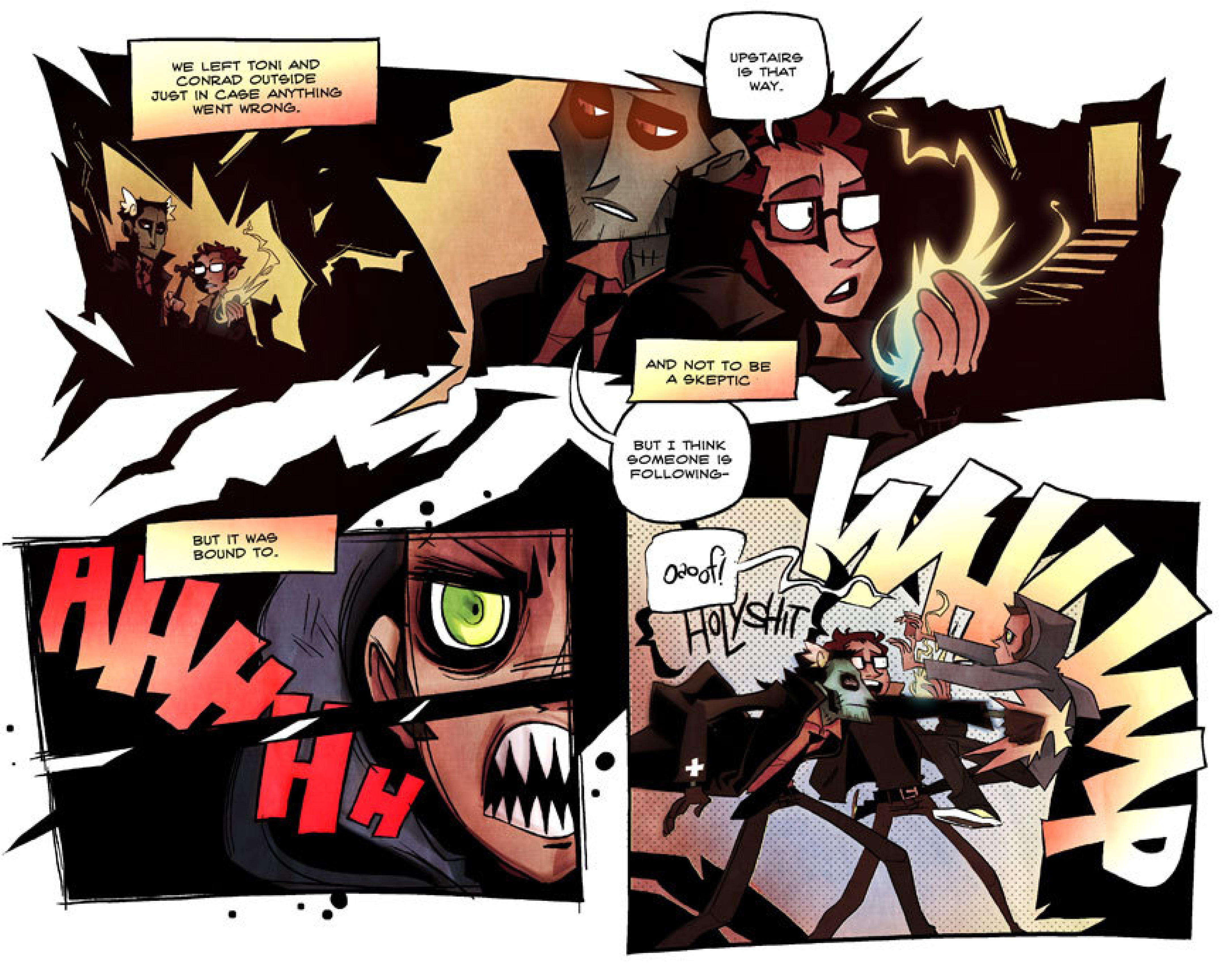

HEY! I'M SO SORRY IT TOOK ME SO LONG, IT'S UNBELIEVABLY HARD TO FIND THIS PLACE-
SPLRTT
Worth
...AND I UHH...
driipdrip driip
...fuckin' serious?
WOW. I AM REALLY SORRY. W-WAS THAT YOUR ENTIRE DINNER?

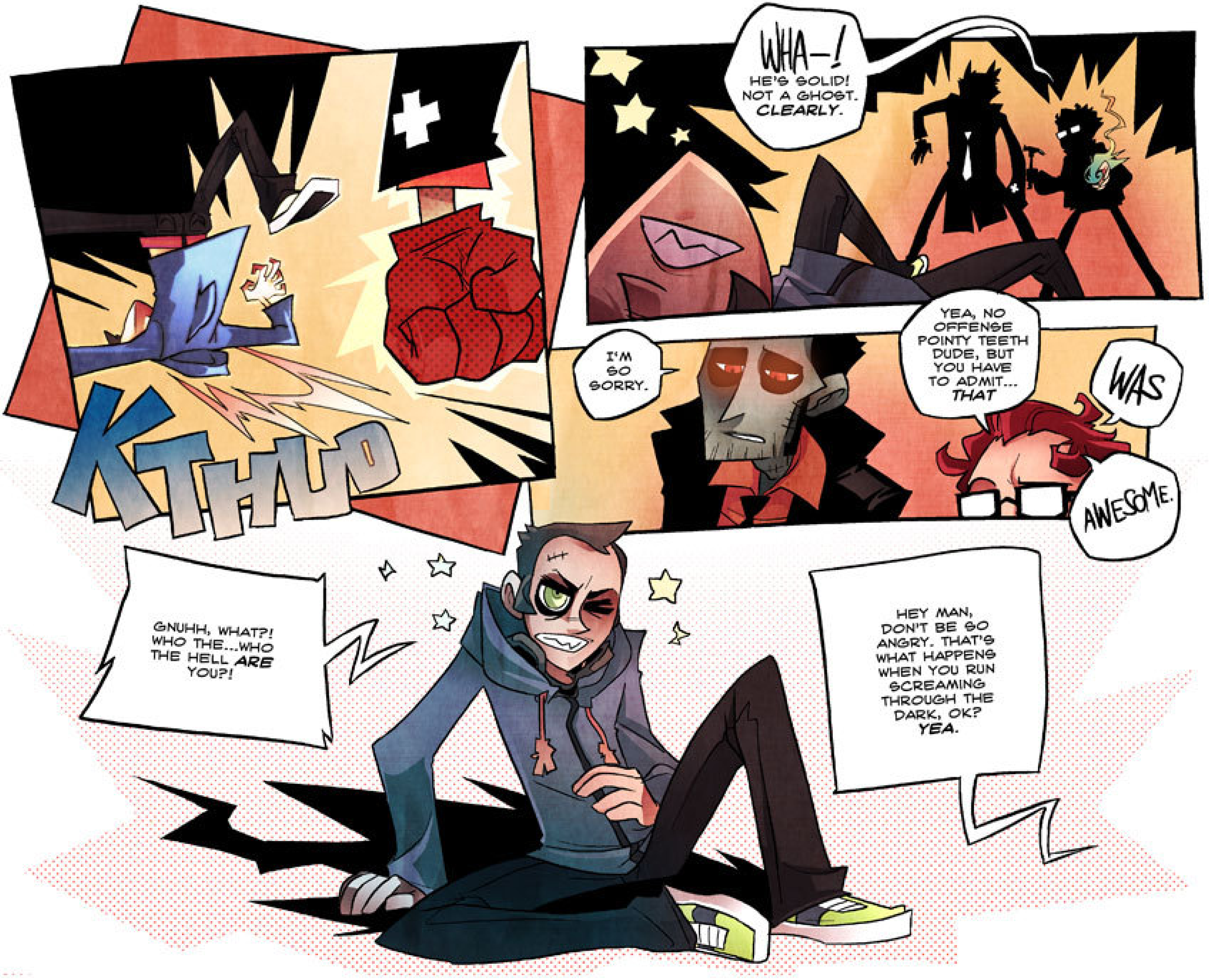

A-ARE YOU... OKAY?
AREN'T YOU A BIT *UNUSUALLY CALM?*
HEY GUYS! WE SHOULD GET GOIN'!
SHOULD YOU EVEN BE UP-
YOU WORRY TOO MUCH, KAIROS! I'M FINE!!
WE JUST NEED TO HURRY. WHEN THAT GHOST PASSED THROUGH ME, I THINK I SAW HIM GET KILLED. HIS BODY IS HIDDEN SOMEWHERE IN THAT THEATRE.
IT WAS WHY HE WAS ABLE TO PROJECT HIMSELF SO STRONGLY, EVEN FOR A SHORT TIME BACK THERE. HMM. AT LEAST, I *THINK* SO.
BY THE WAY, CON. YOU'VE GOT SOME UHHHH, *BLOOD* RIGHT... RIGHT HERE.
HEY! *YOU'RE STILL HERE!* (THAT'S AWESOME.)
KILL YOU

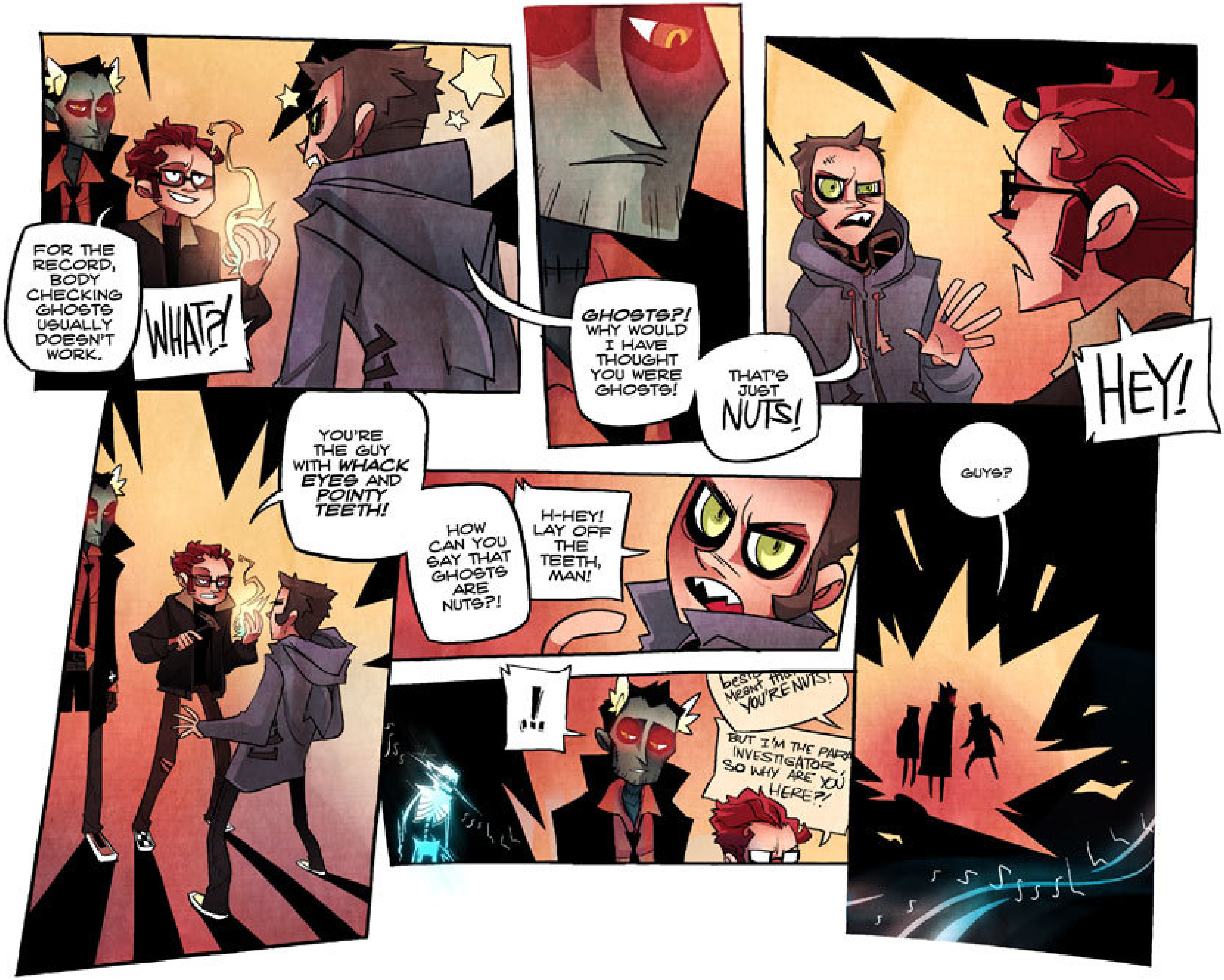

EVERYONE OK?
CARED SH!TLESS.
IF YER WONDERIN', HE'S ALWAYS LIKE THIS.
HRM.
I KNOW HE'S GONNA IGNORE ME AND HAUL HIS SKINNY ASS BACK TO THAT GHOST. MAKE SURE HE DON'T FALL SIX FEET UNDER, YAH? HE MIGHT LISTEN T'YA MORE.

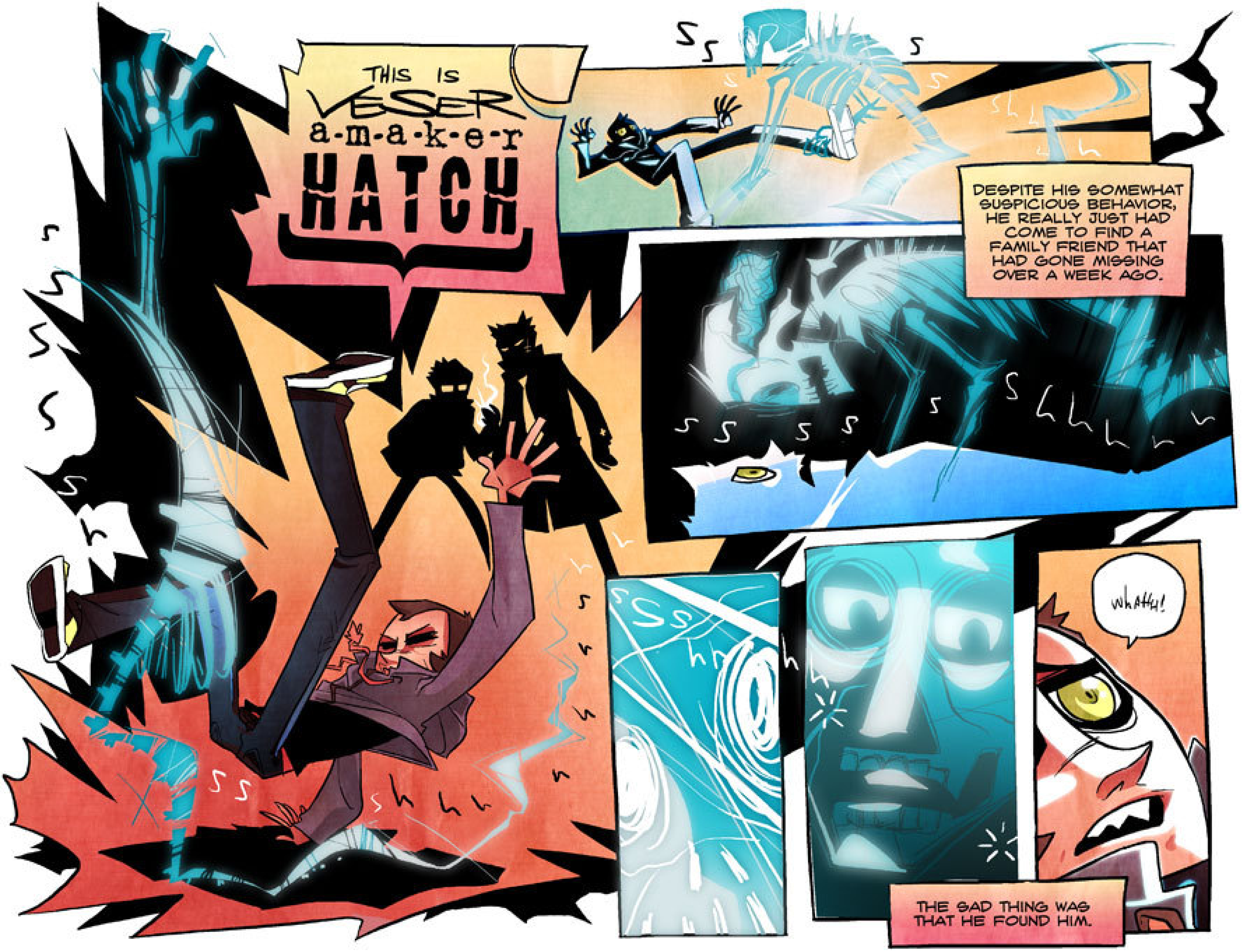

I WAS MORE THAN HAPPY TO DO MY BEST TO ENSURE THAT.
WHOA, THAT LIGHT IS ON!
EXIT
THOUGH, IF HE HAD A STRONGER SENSE OF SELF PRESERVATION IT COULDN'T HURT.
MAYBE.

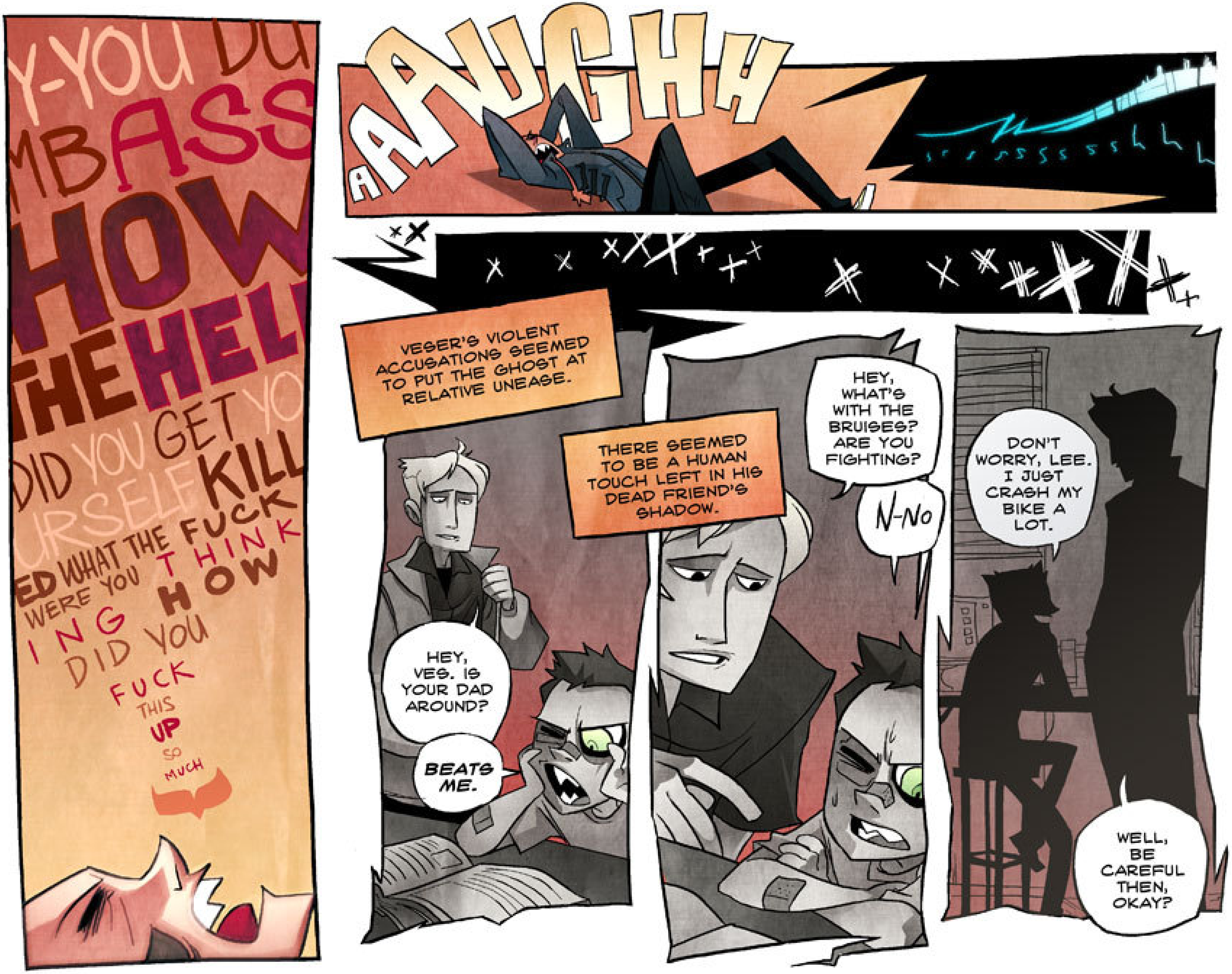

WHY ARE WE COMING IN THROUGH THE BACK?! IT'S ALL BOARDED UP!
PROBABLY FOR A *REASON.* health hazard.
WELL, TONI SAID THAT THERE WAS A WHOLE SECTION OF THE THEATRE THAT'S SEALED OFF FROM THE FRONT.
SO IT'S ACTUALLY EASIER TO GET IN THIS WAY.
Tok Tok
BUT WHAT IF THAT GHOST COMES BACK AND F#CKS YOU UP AGAIN?
kweeee...
I HAVE A PRO-TECTIVE RUNE ON ME THIS TIME. LAST TIME I DIDN'T-
AHHHHH
THE HELL! SOMEONE'S ACTUALLY IN THERE?!
DON'T YOU RUN OFF.

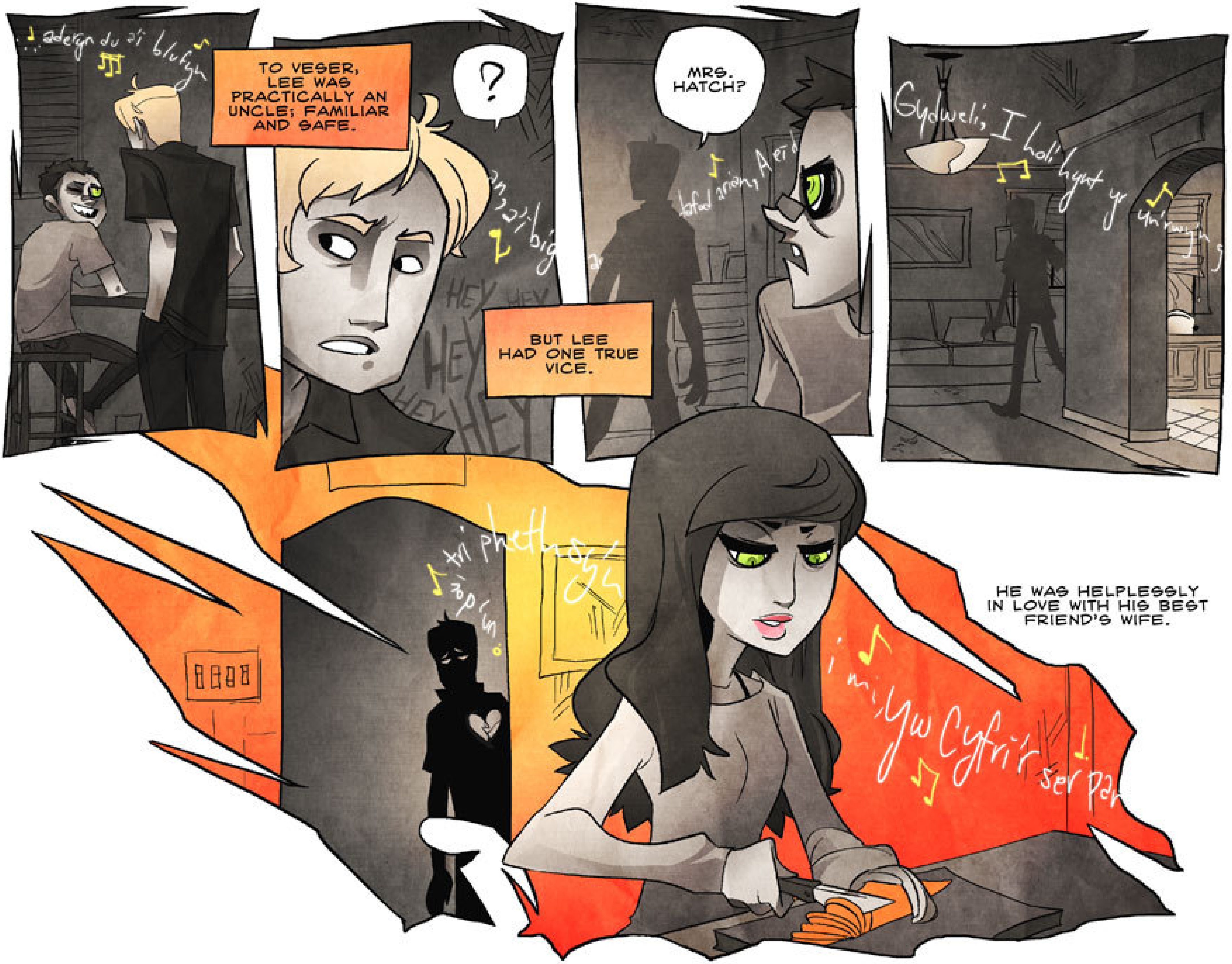

WE LEFT TONI AND CONRAD OUTSIDE JUST IN CASE ANYTHING WENT WRONG.
UPSTAIRS IS THAT WAY.
AND NOT TO BE A SKEPTIC
BUT I THINK SOMEONE IS FOLLOWING-
BUT IT WAS BOUND TO.
AHHHHH
Oooof!
HOLYSHIT
WHUMP

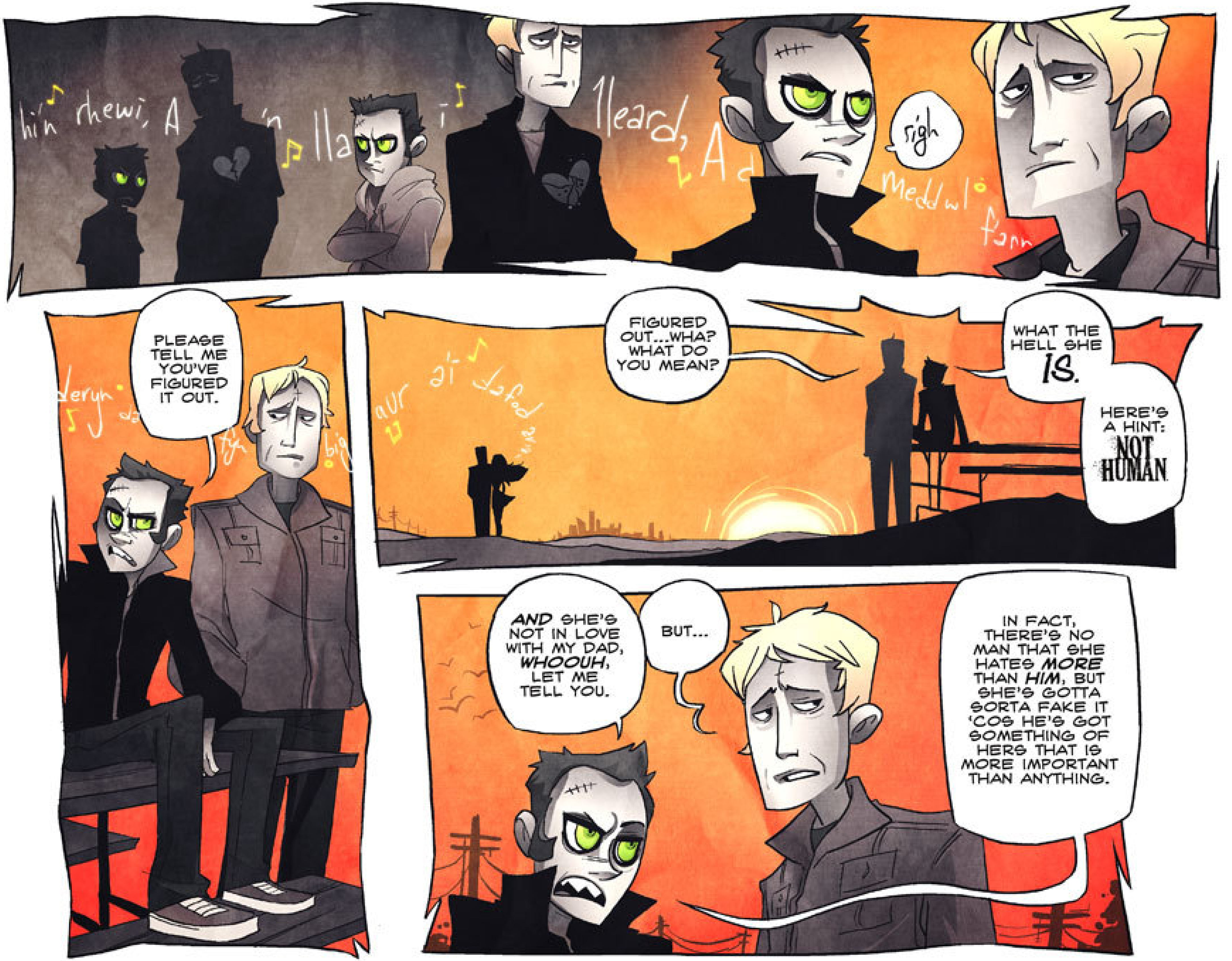

KTHUD
WHA--!
HE'S SOLID! NOT A GHOST. *CLEARLY.*
I'M SO SORRY.
YEA, NO OFFENSE POINTY TEETH DUDE, BUT YOU HAVE TO ADMIT... *THAT*
WAS
AWESOME.
GNUHH, WHAT?! WHO THE...WHO THE HELL *ARE* YOU?!
HEY MAN, DON'T BE SO ANGRY. THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU RUN SCREAMING THROUGH THE DARK, OK? *YEA.*

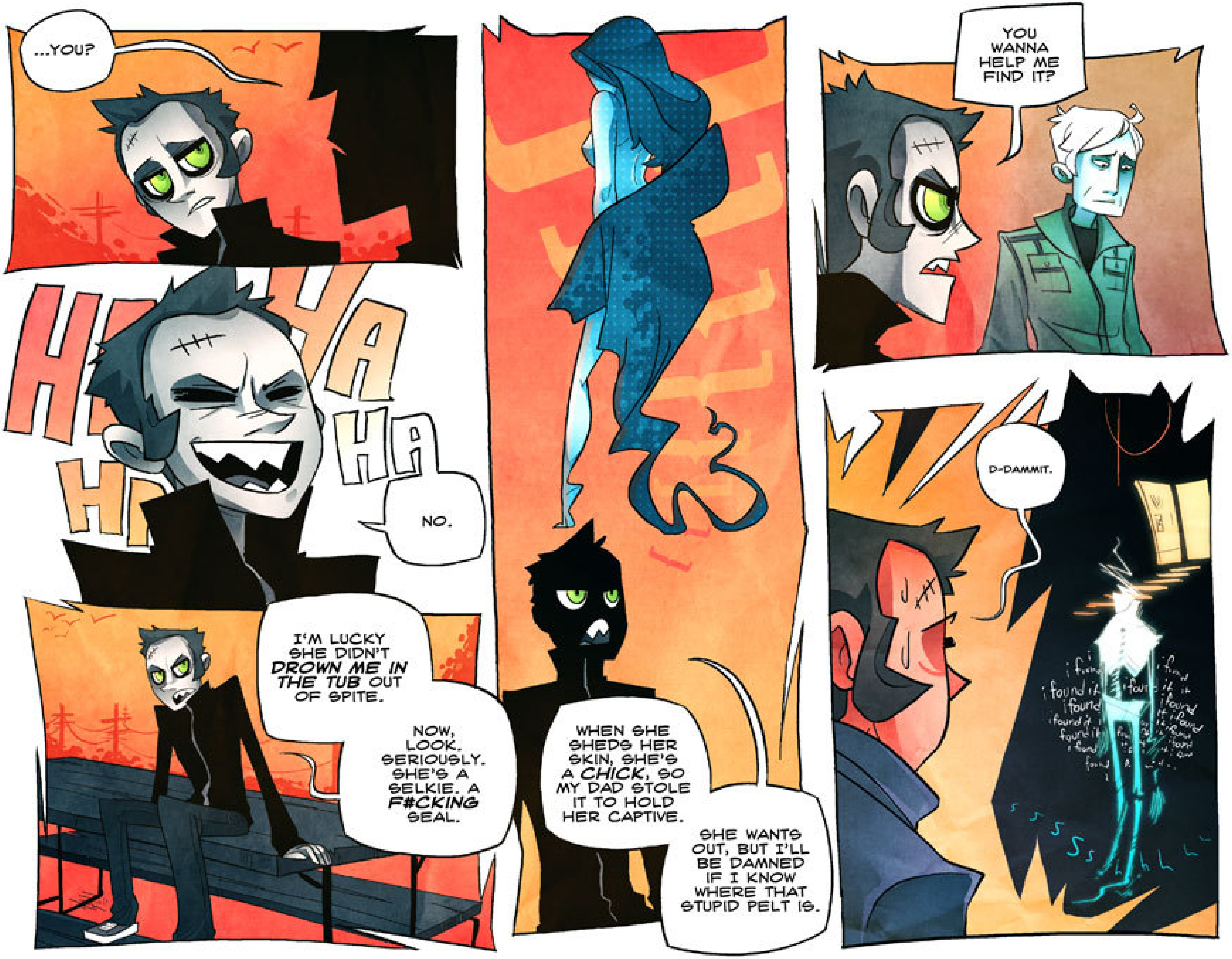

FOR THE RECORD, BODY CHECKING GHOSTS USUALLY DOESN'T WORK.
WHAT?!
GHOSTS?! WHY WOULD I HAVE THOUGHT YOU WERE GHOSTS!
THAT'S JUST NUTS!
HEY!
YOU'RE THE GUY WITH WHACK EYES AND POINTY TEETH!
HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT GHOSTS ARE NUTS?!
H-HEY! LAY OFF THE TEETH, MAN!
GUYS?
.!
besi tha Meant YOU'RE NUTS!
BUT I'M THE PAR INVESTIGATOR, SO WHY ARE YOU HERE?!

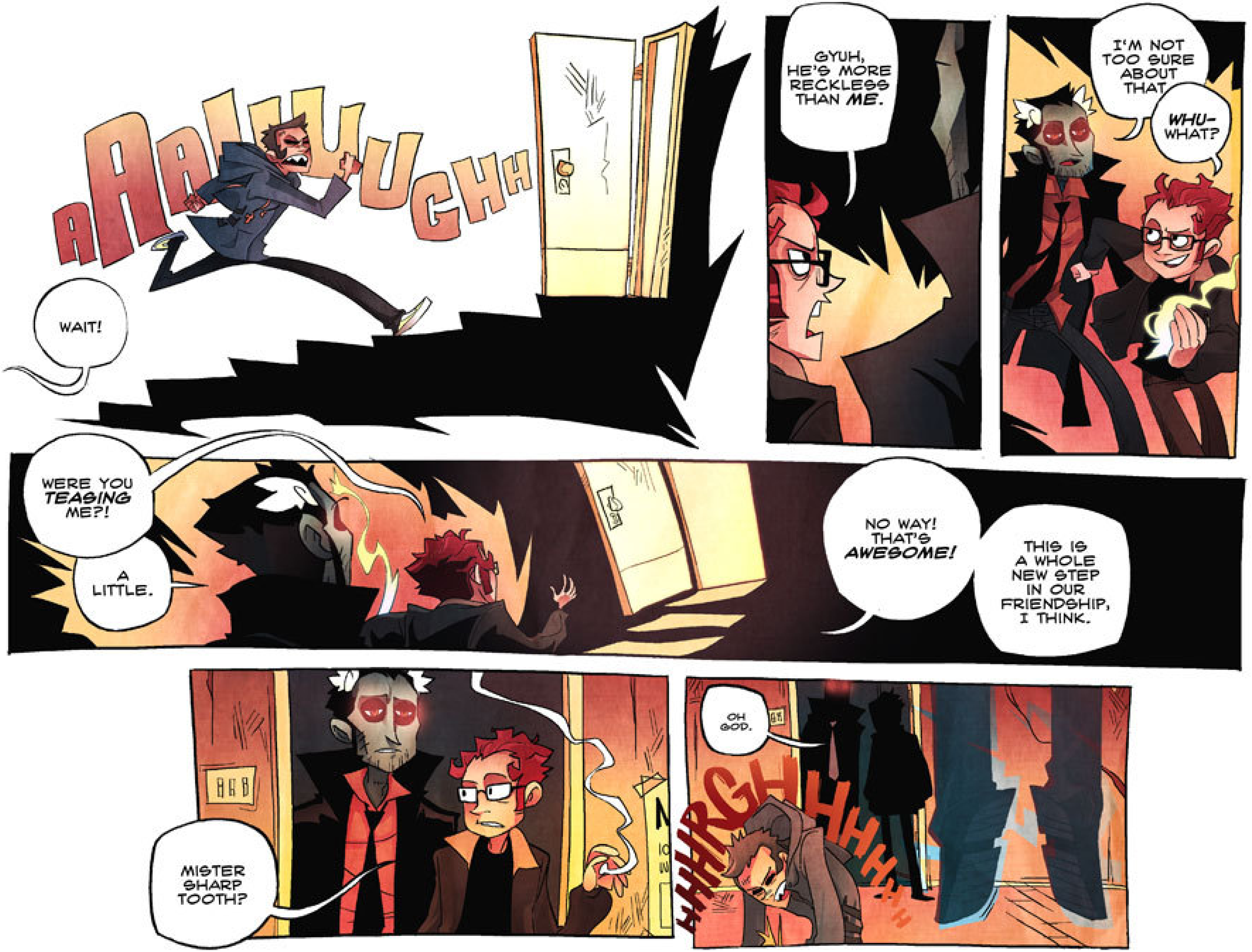

THIS IS
VESER
a-m-a-k-e-r
HATCH
DESPITE HIS SOMEWHAT SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOR, HE REALLY JUST HAD COME TO FIND A FAMILY FRIEND THAT HAD GONE MISSING OVER A WEEK AGO.
whAHH!
THE SAD THING WAS THAT HE FOUND HIM.

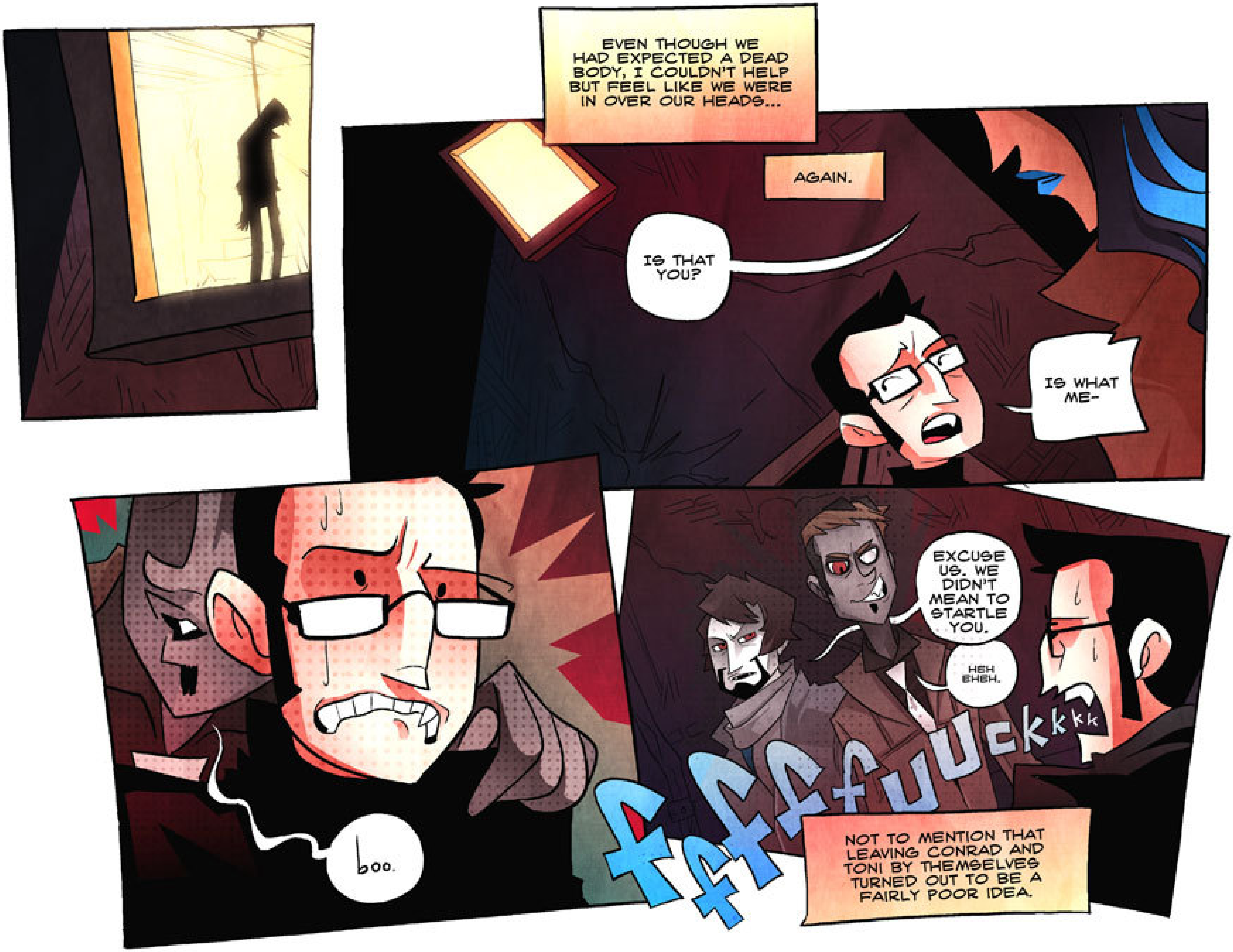

Y-YOU DU
MBASS
HOW
THE HELL
DID YOU GET YO
URSELF KILL
ED WHAT THE FUCK
WERE YOU THINK
ING
HOW
DID YOU
FUCK
THIS
UP
SO
MUCH
AAAUGHH
ssssssshhh
VESER'S VIOLENT ACCUSATIONS SEEMED TO PUT THE GHOST AT RELATIVE UNEASE.
HEY, VES. IS YOUR DAD AROUND?
BEATS ME.
THERE SEEMED TO BE A HUMAN TOUCH LEFT IN HIS DEAD FRIEND'S SHADOW.
HEY, WHAT'S WITH THE BRUISES? ARE YOU FIGHTING?
N-NO
DON'T WORRY, LEE. I JUST CRASH MY BIKE A LOT.
WELL, BE CAREFUL THEN, OKAY?

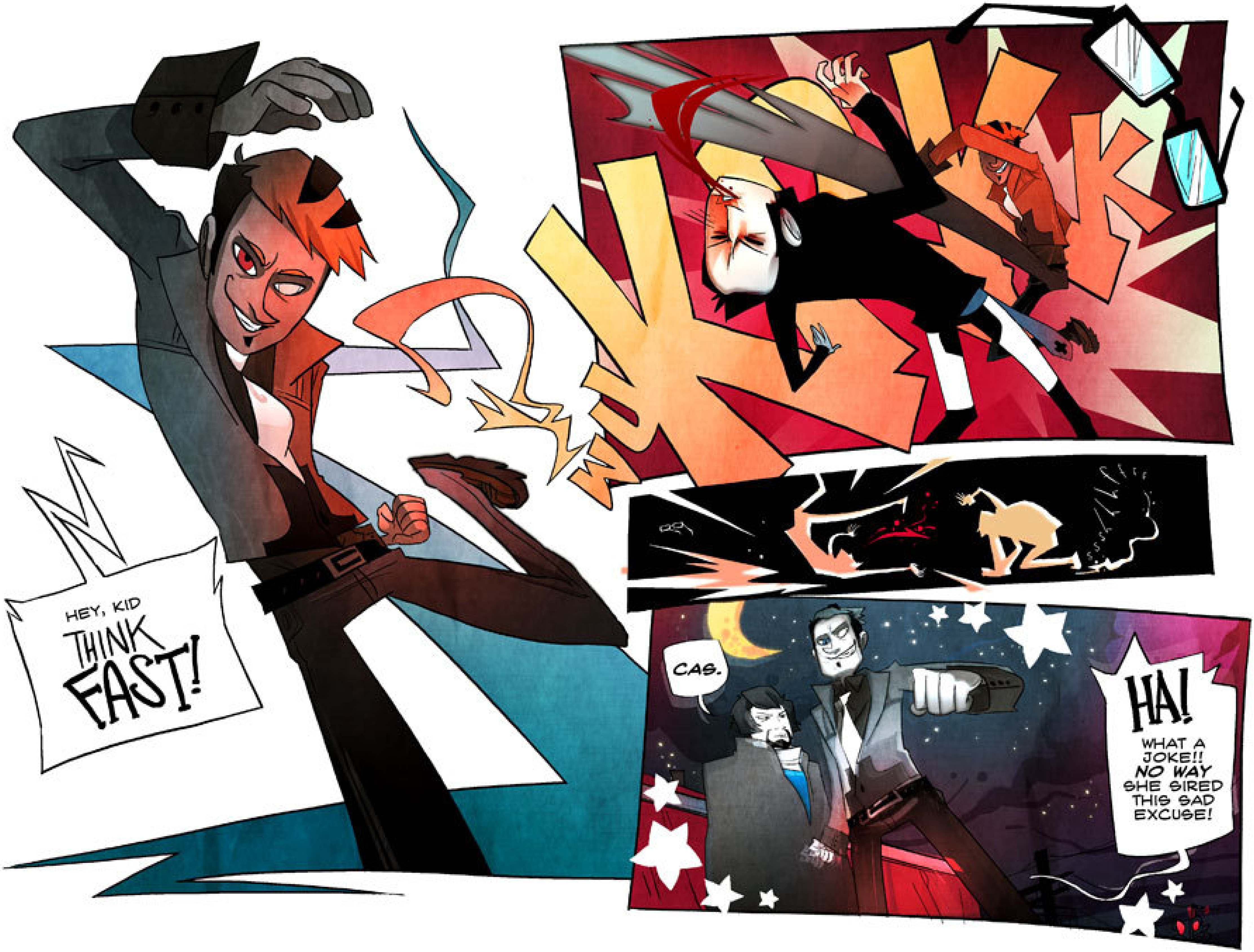

aderyn du a'i blufyn
TO VESER, LEE WAS PRACTICALLY AN UNCLE; FAMILIAR AND SAFE.
?
an a'i big
HEY HEY HEY HEY HEY HEY
BUT LEE HAD ONE TRUE VICE.
MRS. HATCH?
tafod arian, A'r
Gydweli, I holi hynt yr un'rwy'n g
tri pheth sy'n
anodd
i mi yw cyfri'r ser pan
HE WAS HELPLESSLY IN LOVE WITH HIS BEST FRIEND'S WIFE.

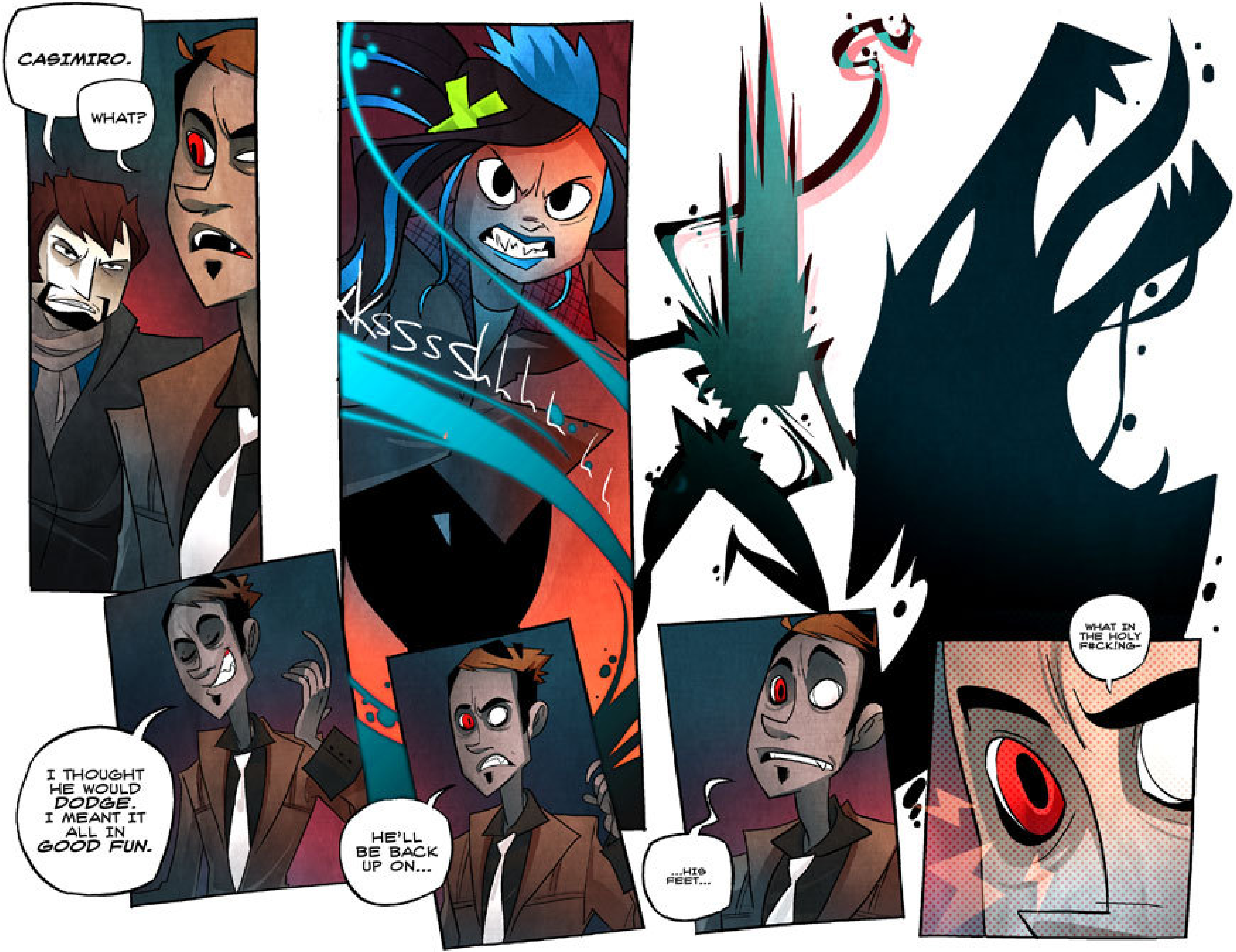

hin rhewi, A
'n lla
i
lleard, A d
sigh
meddwl
farn
deryn
da
big
PLEASE TELL ME YOU'VE FIGURED IT OUT.
aur ai dafod
FIGURED OUT...WHA? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHAT THE HELL SHE IS.
HERE'S A HINT: NOT HUMAN.
AND SHE'S NOT IN LOVE WITH MY DAD, WHOOUH, LET ME TELL YOU.
BUT...
IN FACT, THERE'S NO MAN THAT SHE HATES MORE THAN HIM, BUT SHE'S GOTTA SORTA FAKE IT 'COS HE'S GOT SOMETHING OF HERS THAT IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANYTHING.

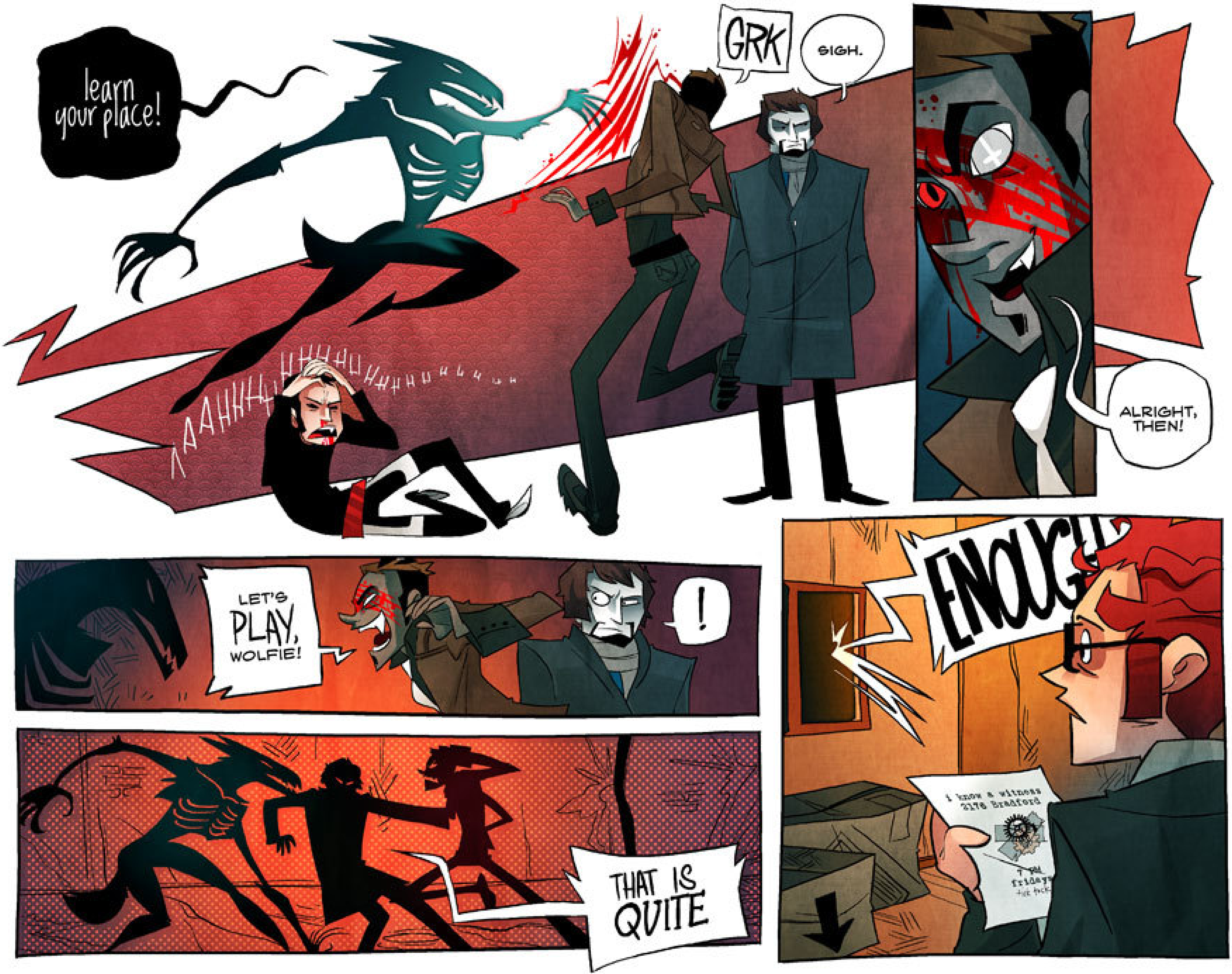

...YOU?
HA HA HA HA
NO.
I'M LUCKY SHE DIDN'T *DROWN ME IN THE TUB* OUT OF SPITE.
NOW, LOOK. SERIOUSLY. SHE'S A SELKIE. A *F#CKING* SEAL.
WHEN SHE SHEDS HER SKIN, SHE'S A *CHICK*, SO MY DAD STOLE IT TO HOLD HER CAPTIVE.
SHE WANTS OUT, BUT I'LL BE DAMNED IF I KNOW WHERE THAT STUPID PELT IS.
YOU WANNA HELP ME FIND IT?
D-DAMMIT.
i found it
i found
i found it
found it
i found
found
i found it
i found it i found

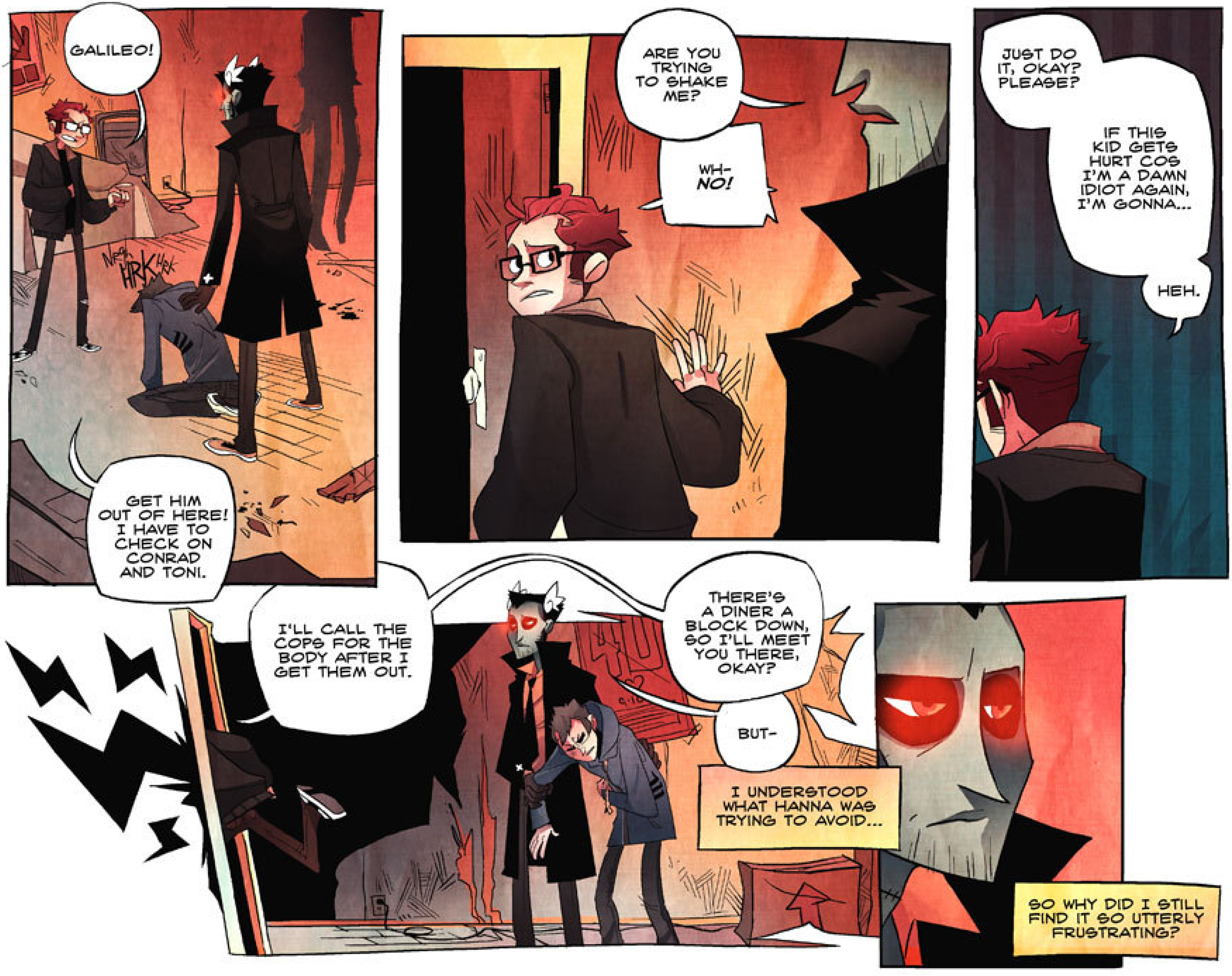

aAAUUUGHH
WAIT!
GYUH, HE'S MORE RECKLESS THAN *ME*.
I'M NOT TOO SURE ABOUT THAT.
WHU- WHAT?
WERE YOU *TEASING* ME?!
A LITTLE.
NO WAY! THAT'S *AWESOME!*
THIS IS A WHOLE NEW STEP IN OUR FRIENDSHIP, I THINK.
MISTER SHARP TOOTH?
OH GOD.
HHRGHHHHH

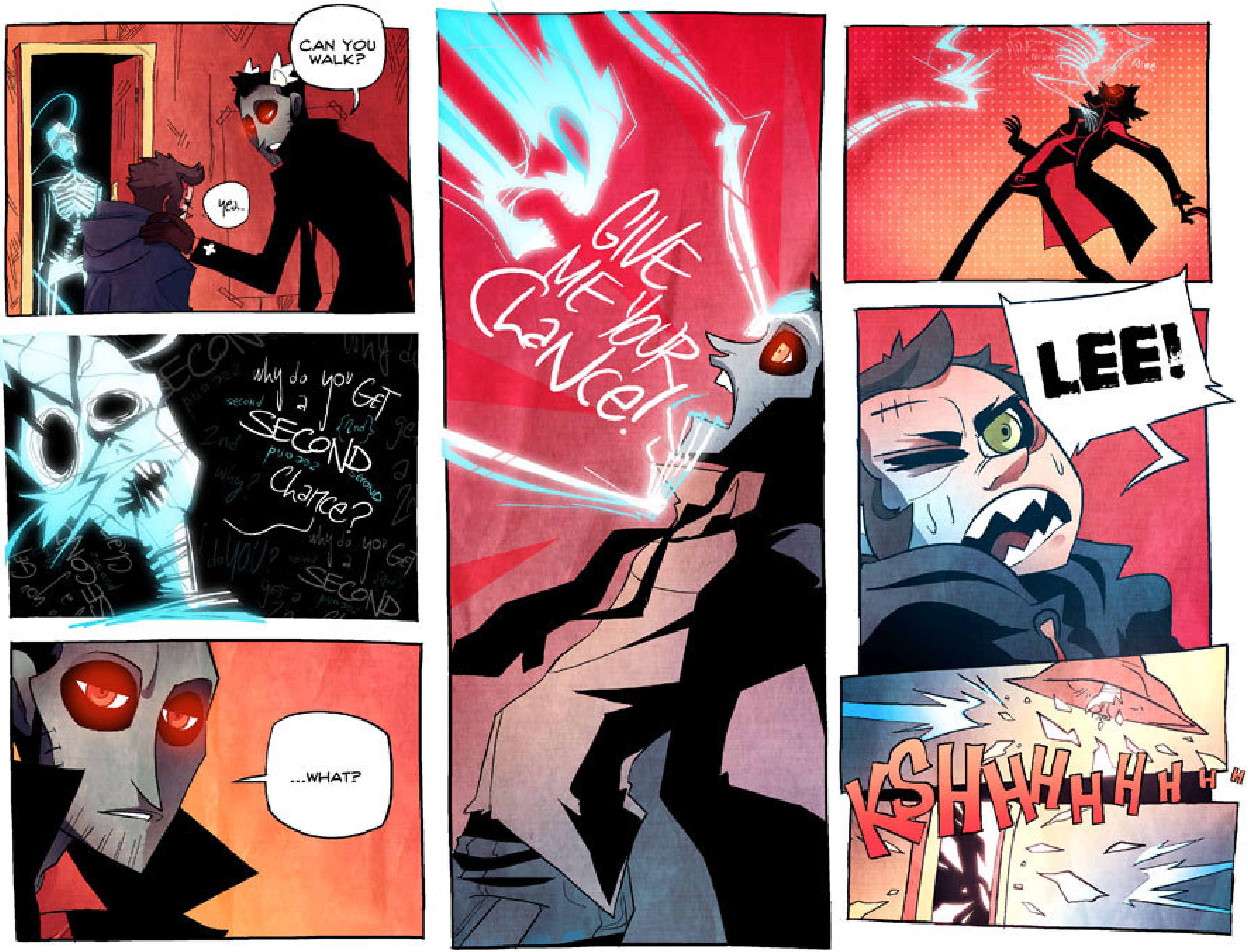

EVEN THOUGH WE HAD EXPECTED A DEAD BODY, I COULDN'T HELP BUT FEEL LIKE WE WERE IN OVER OUR HEADS...
AGAIN.
IS THAT YOU?
IS WHAT ME-
boo.
EXCUSE US. WE DIDN'T MEAN TO STARTLE YOU.
HEH EHEH.
fffffuuuckkkk
NOT TO MENTION THAT LEAVING CONRAD AND TONI BY THEMSELVES TURNED OUT TO BE A FAIRLY POOR IDEA.

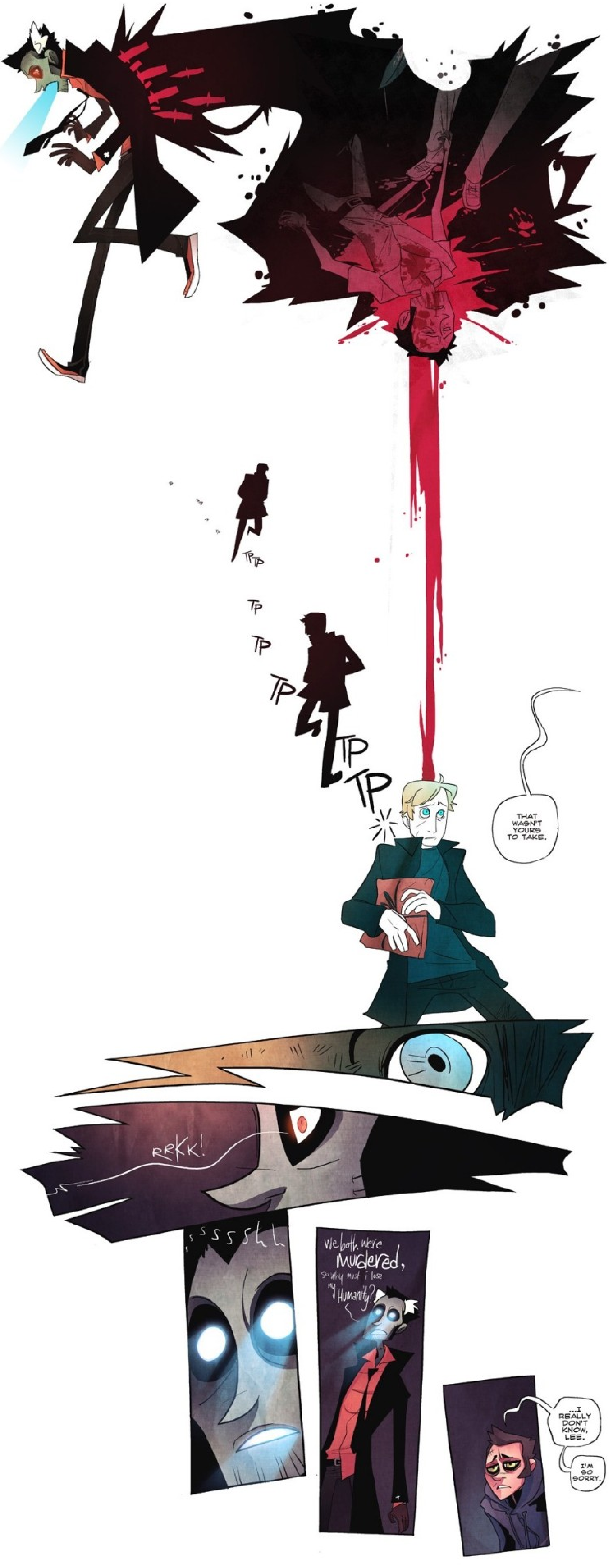

HEY, KID THINK FAST!
CAS.
HA! WHAT A JOKE!! NO WAY SHE SIRED THIS SAD EXCUSE!

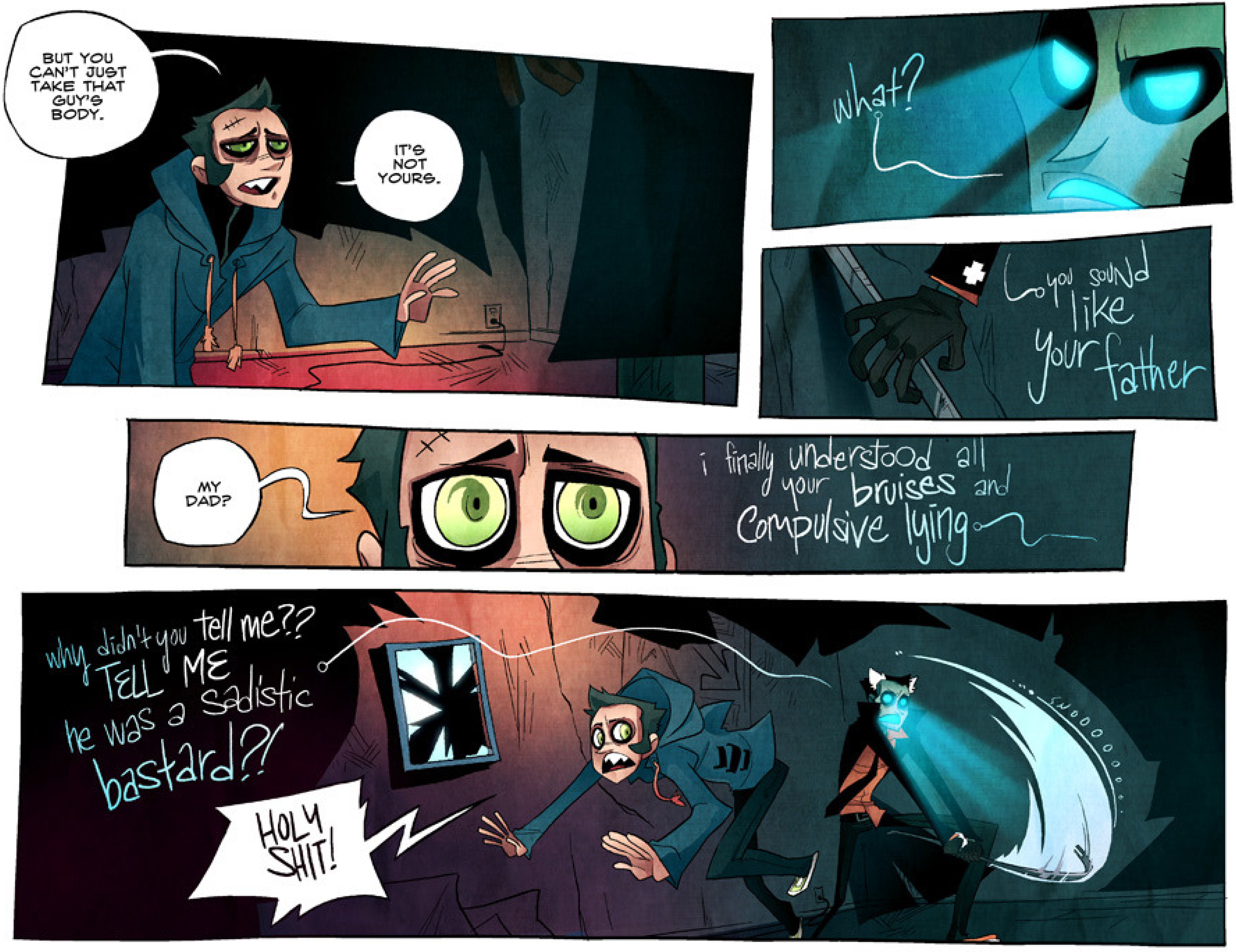

CASIMIRO.
WHAT?
KSSSSHHHLLLL
I THOUGHT HE WOULD *DODGE.* I MEANT IT ALL IN *GOOD FUN.*
HE'LL BE BACK UP ON...
...HIS FEET...
WHAT IN THE HOLY F#CKING–

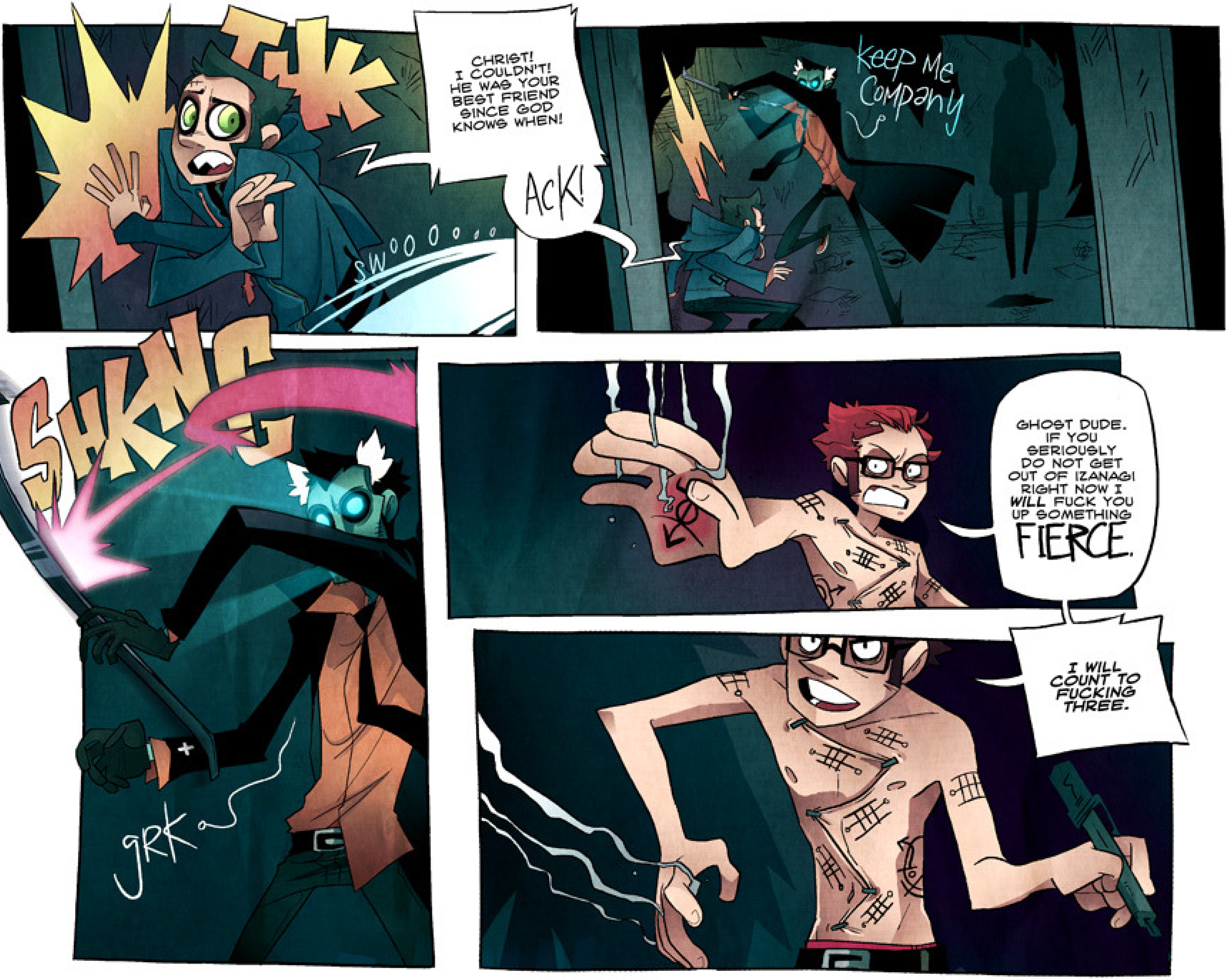

learn your place!
AAHHHHHHHHHHHHH
GRK
SIGH.
ALRIGHT, THEN!
LET'S PLAY, WOLFIE!
!
THAT IS QUITE
ENOUG
i know a witness
2278 Bradford
7 PM
fridays

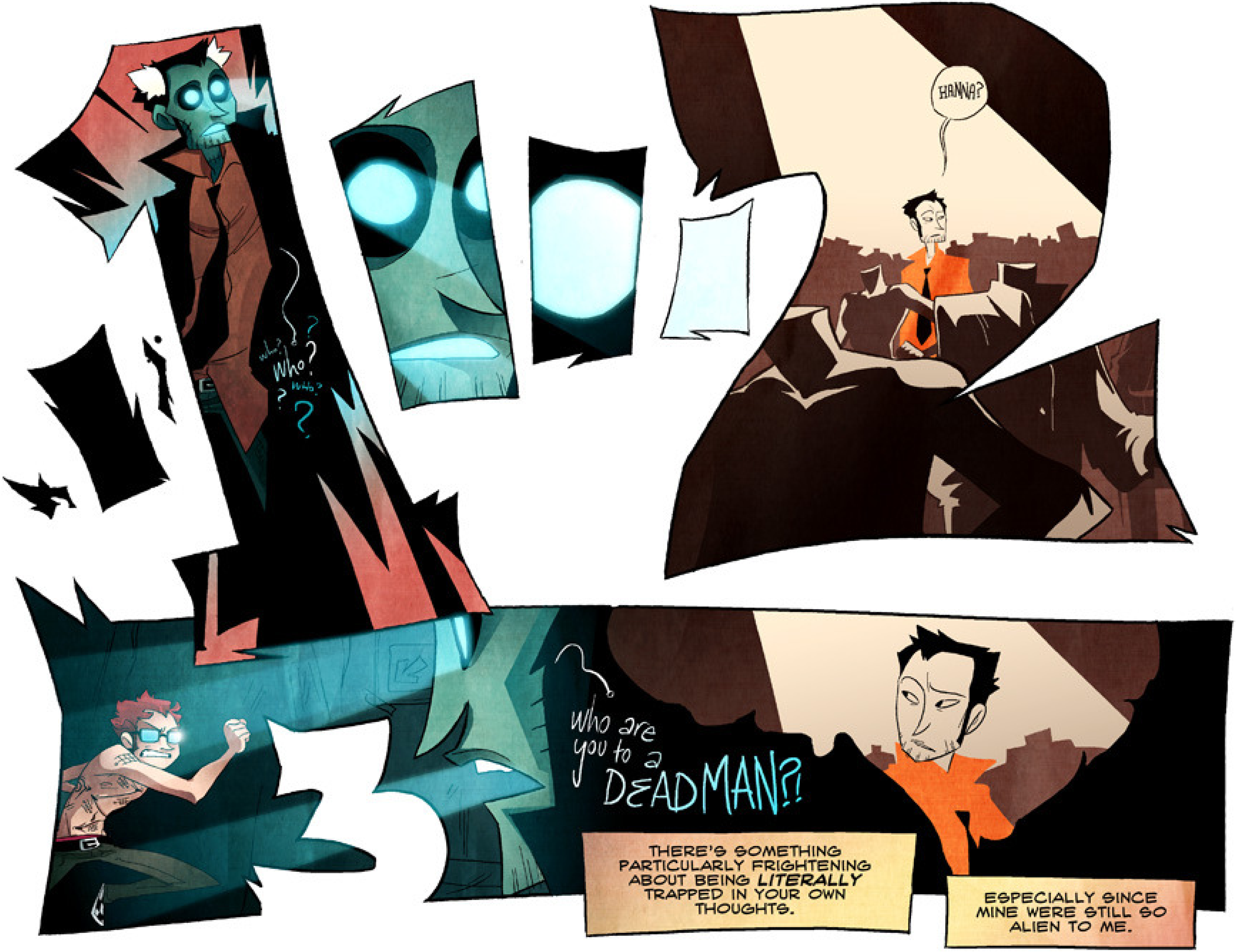

GALILEO!
Ngh HRK hrk
GET HIM OUT OF HERE! I HAVE TO CHECK ON CONRAD AND TONI.
ARE YOU TRYING TO SHAKE ME?
WH- *NO!*
JUST DO IT, OKAY? PLEASE?
IF THIS KID GETS HURT COS I'M A DAMN IDIOT AGAIN, I'M GONNA...
HEH.
I'LL CALL THE COPS FOR THE BODY AFTER I GET THEM OUT.
THERE'S A DINER A BLOCK DOWN, SO I'LL MEET YOU THERE, OKAY?
BUT-
I UNDERSTOOD WHAT HANNA WAS TRYING TO AVOID...
SO WHY DID I STILL FIND IT SO UTTERLY FRUSTRATING?

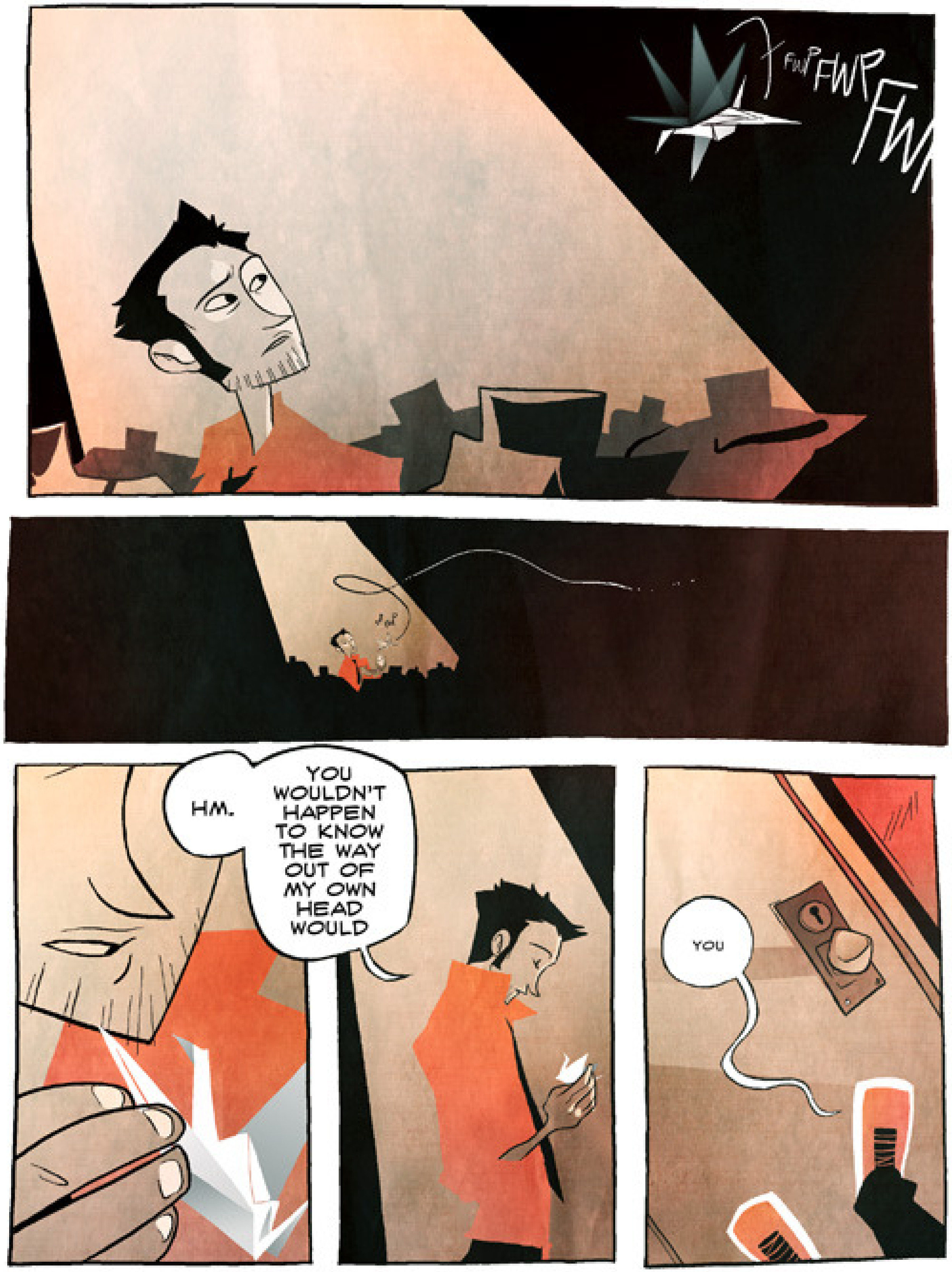

CAN YOU WALK?
yea..
why do you GET a SECOND chance?
why do you GET a SECOND
...WHAT?
GIVE ME YOUR Chance!
LEE!
KSHHHHHHHH

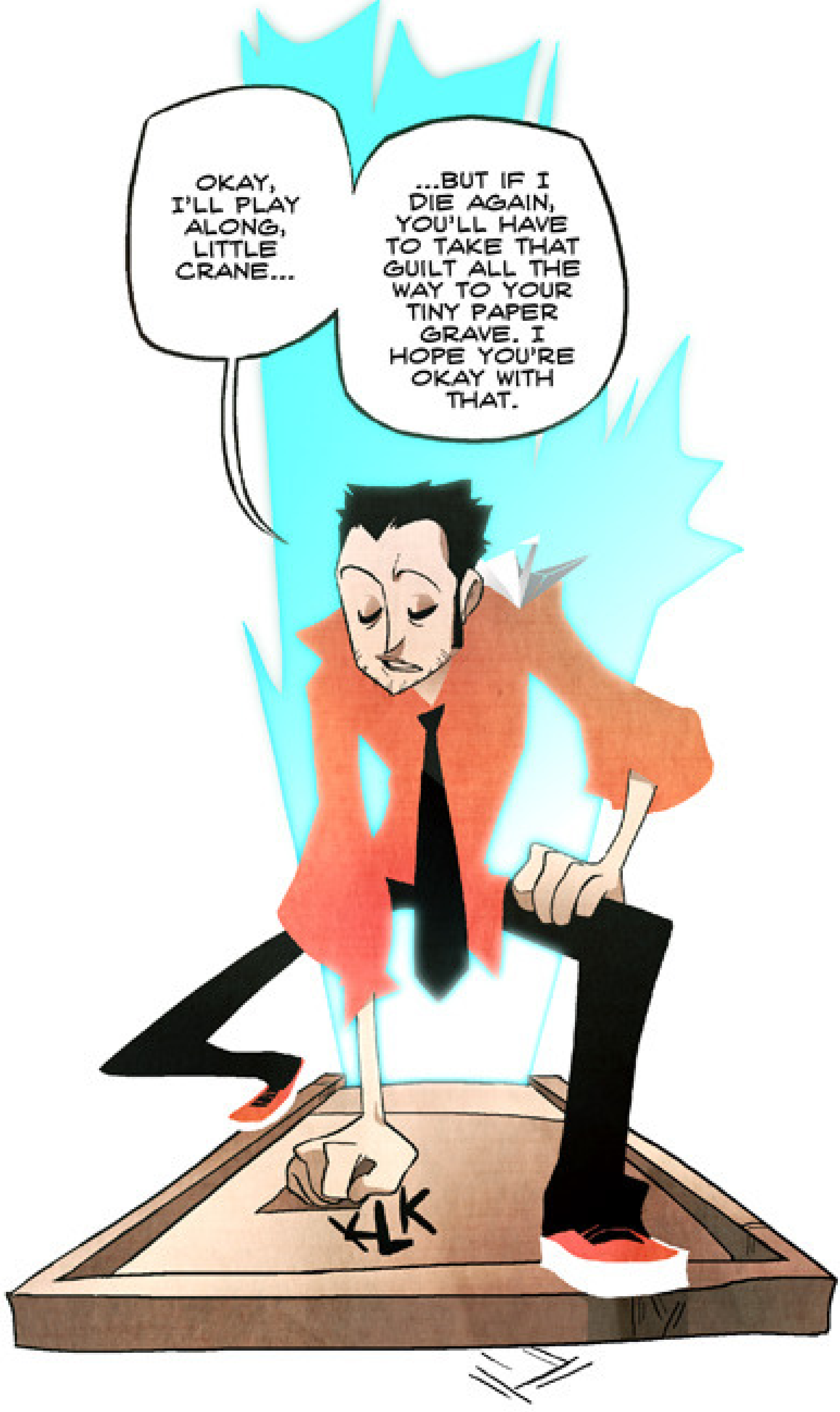

TPTP
TP
TP
TP
TP
TP
THAT WASN'T YOURS TO TAKE.
RRKK!
sssssshh
We both were murdered, so why must i lose my Humanity?
...I REALLY DON'T KNOW, LEE.
I'M SO SORRY.

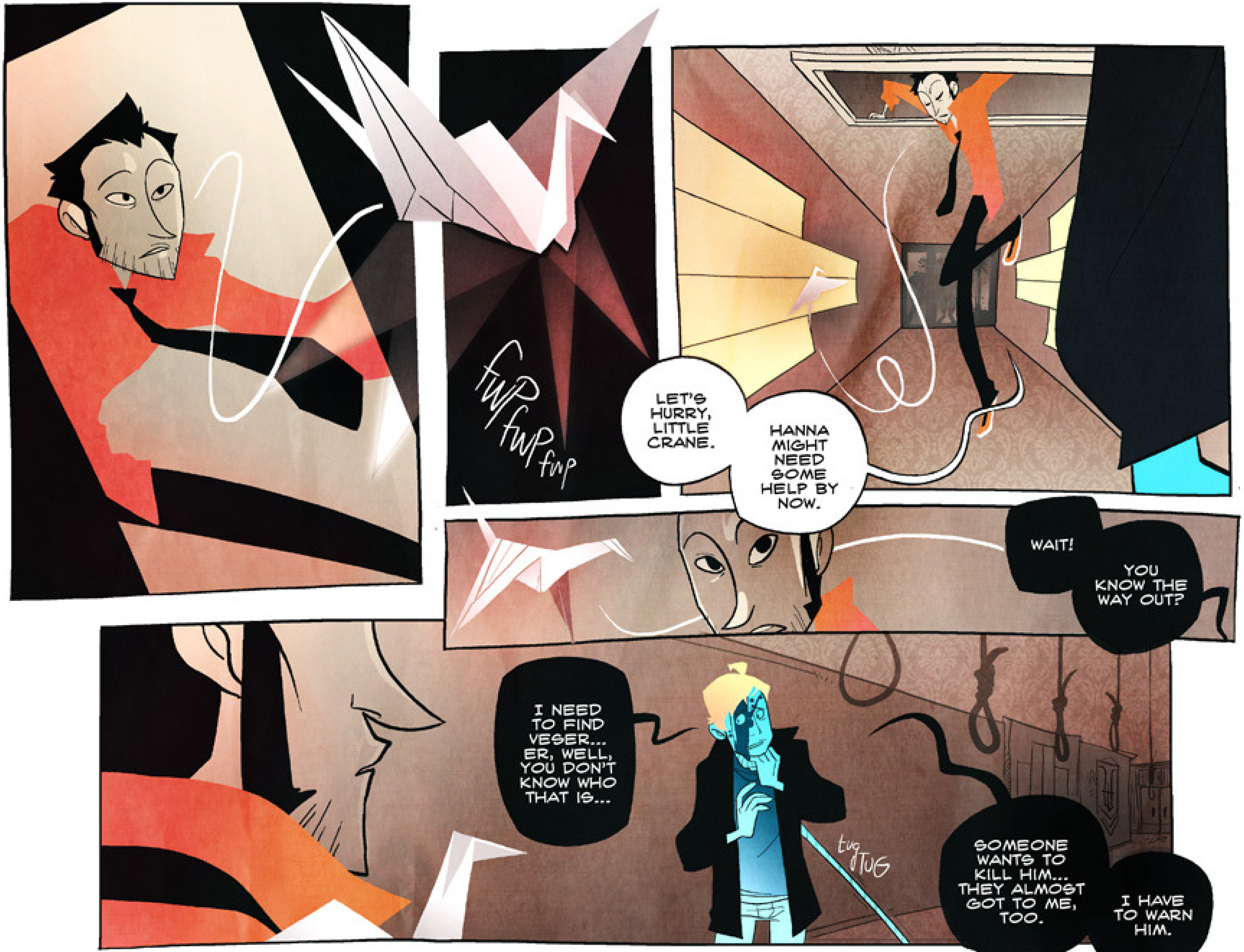

BUT YOU CAN'T JUST TAKE THAT GUY'S BODY.
IT'S NOT YOURS.
what?
you sound like your father
MY DAD?
i finally understood all your bruises and compulsive lying
why didn't you tell me?? TELL ME he was a sadistic bastard?!
HOLY SHIT!
SWOOOOOOO

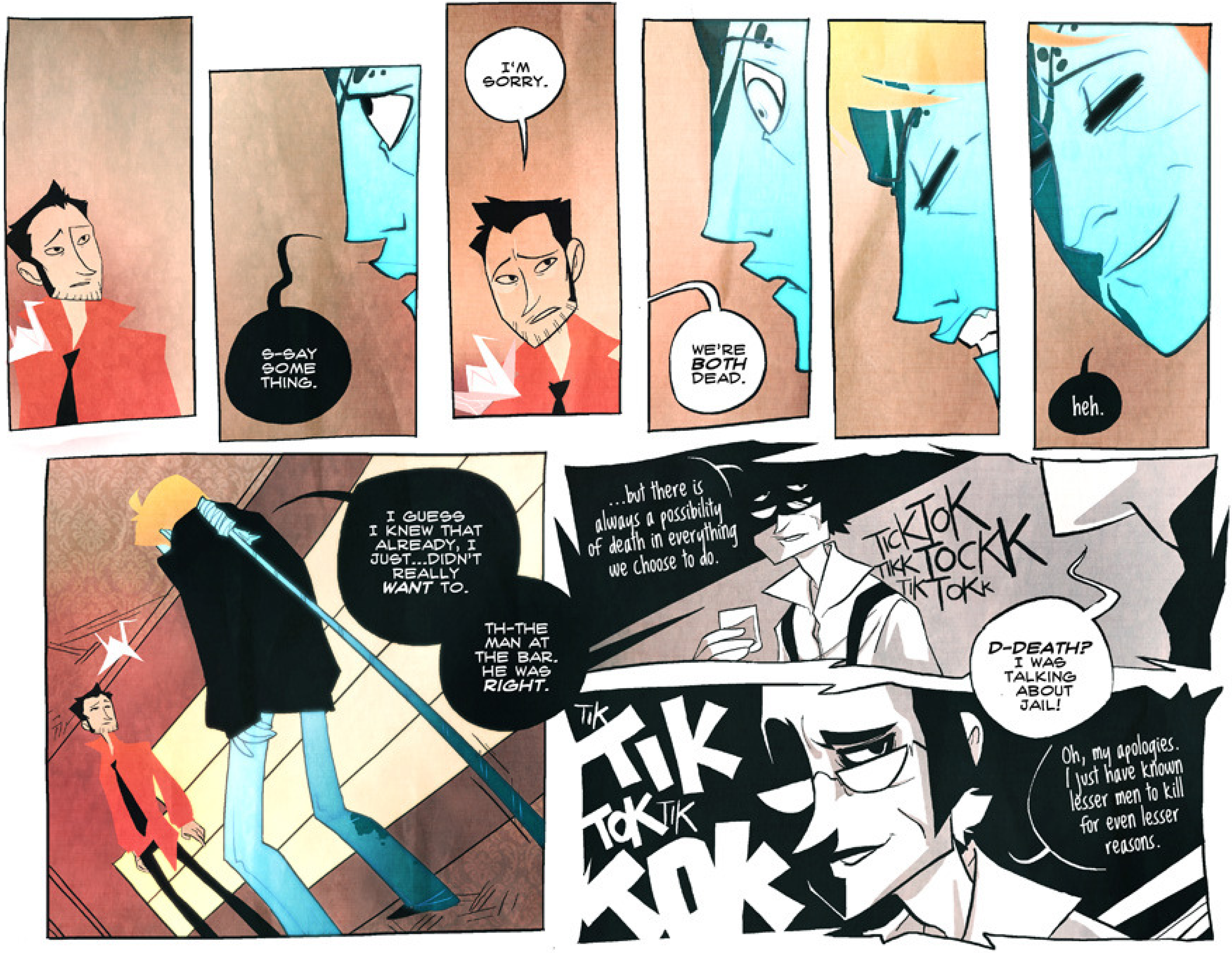

TIK
CHRIST! I COULDN'T! HE WAS YOUR BEST FRIEND SINCE GOD KNOWS WHEN!
SWOOOOOO
ACK!
Keep Me Company
SHKNG
gRK
GHOST DUDE. IF YOU SERIOUSLY DO NOT GET OUT OF IZANAGI RIGHT NOW I **WILL** FUCK YOU UP SOMETHING FIERCE.
I WILL COUNT TO FUCKING THREE.

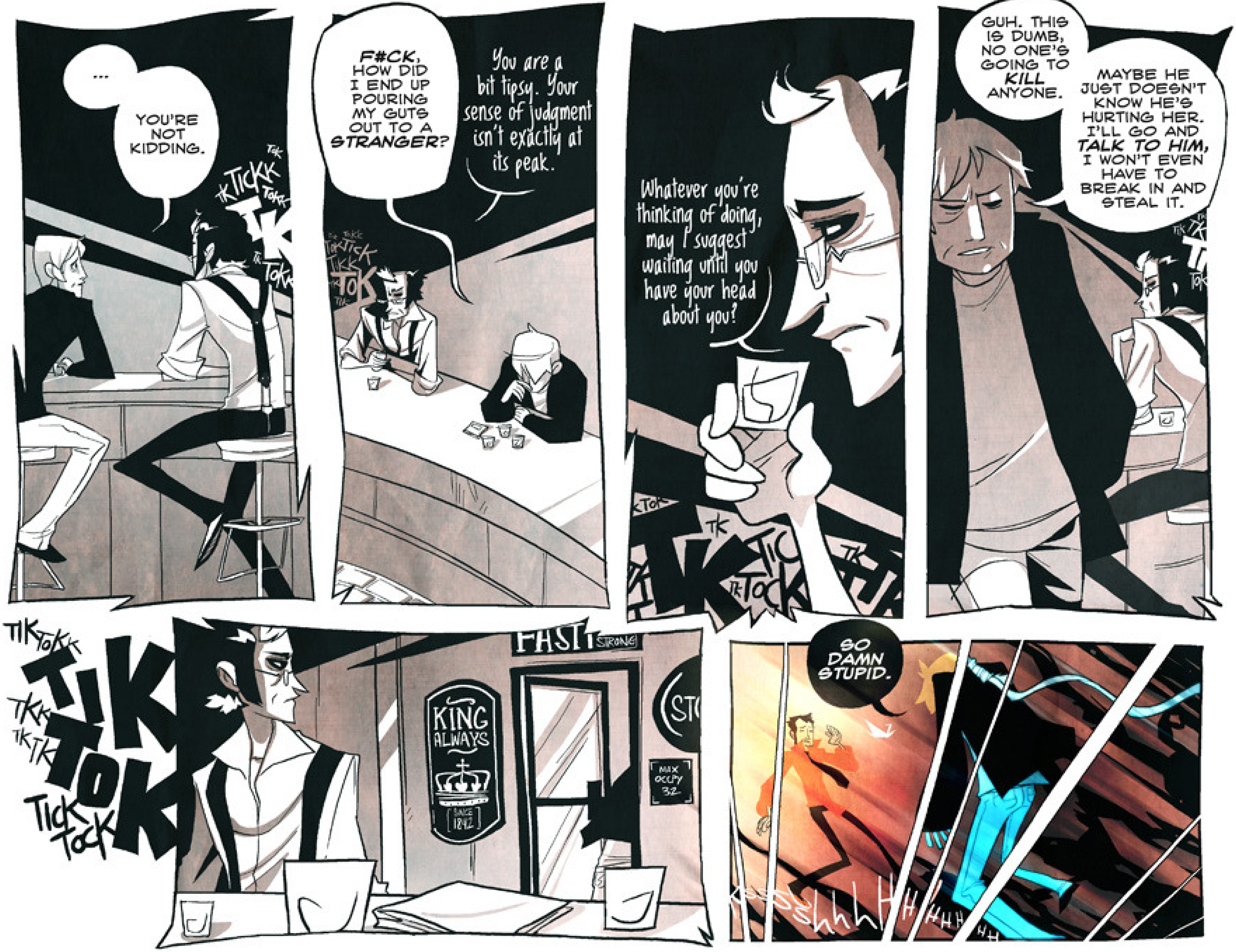

who? who? ? who? ?
HANNA?
who are you to a DEADMAN?!
THERE'S SOMETHING PARTICULARLY FRIGHTENING ABOUT BEING *LITERALLY* TRAPPED IN YOUR OWN THOUGHTS.
ESPECIALLY SINCE MINE WERE STILL SO ALIEN TO ME.

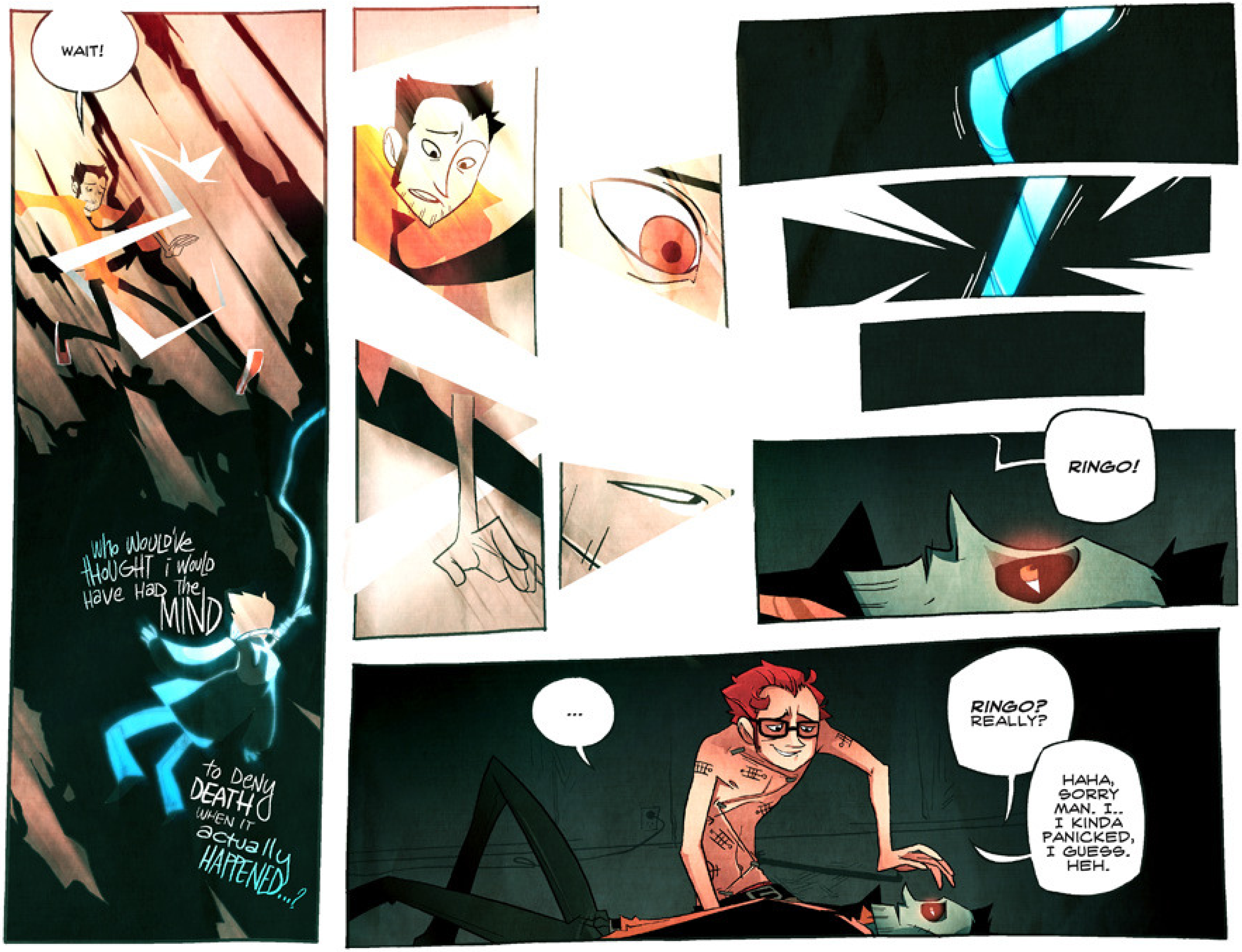

FWP FWR FWR
HM.
YOU WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO KNOW THE WAY OUT OF MY OWN HEAD WOULD
YOU

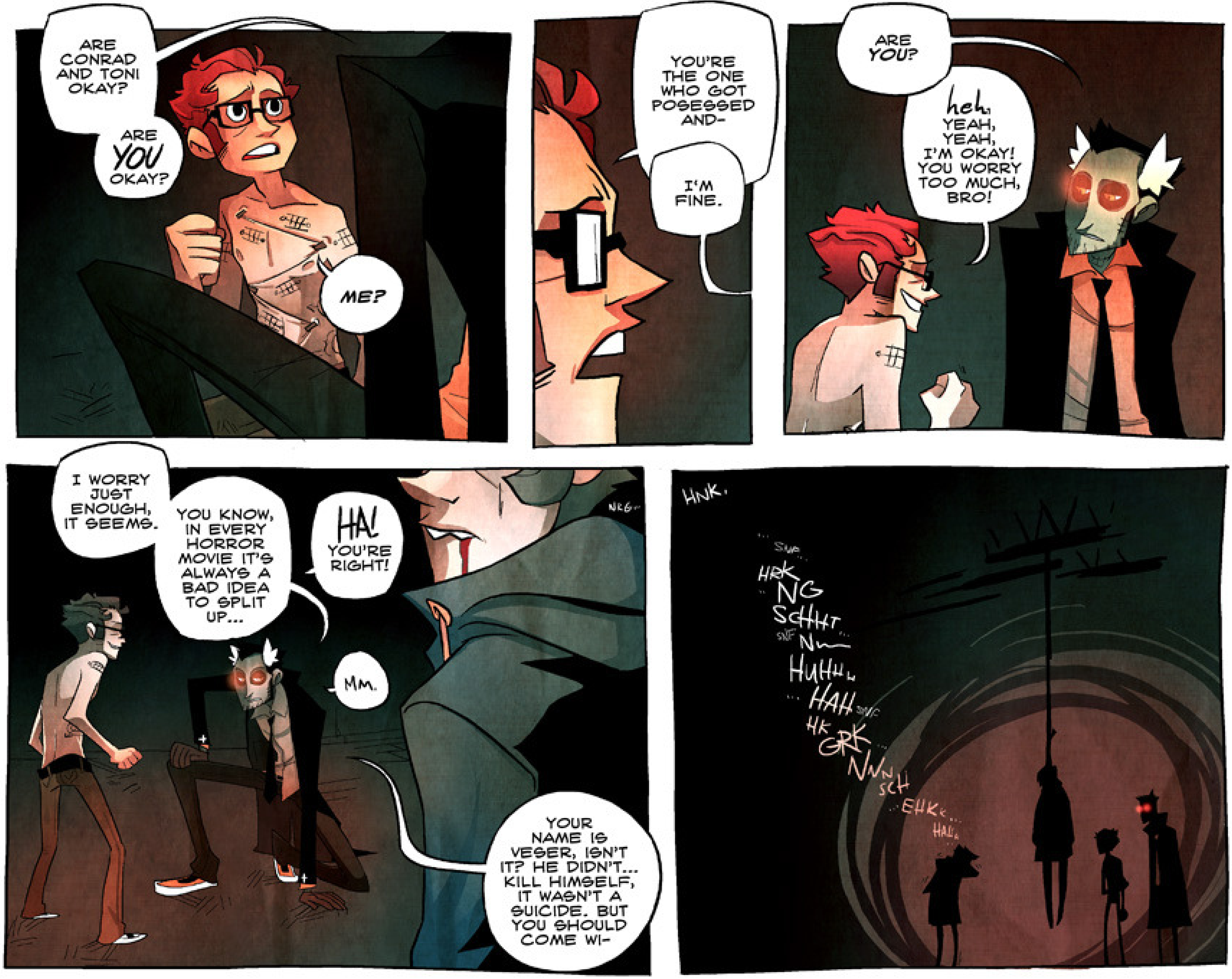

OKAY, I'LL PLAY ALONG, LITTLE CRANE...
...BUT IF I DIE AGAIN, YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE THAT GUILT ALL THE WAY TO YOUR TINY PAPER GRAVE. I HOPE YOU'RE OKAY WITH THAT.
KLK

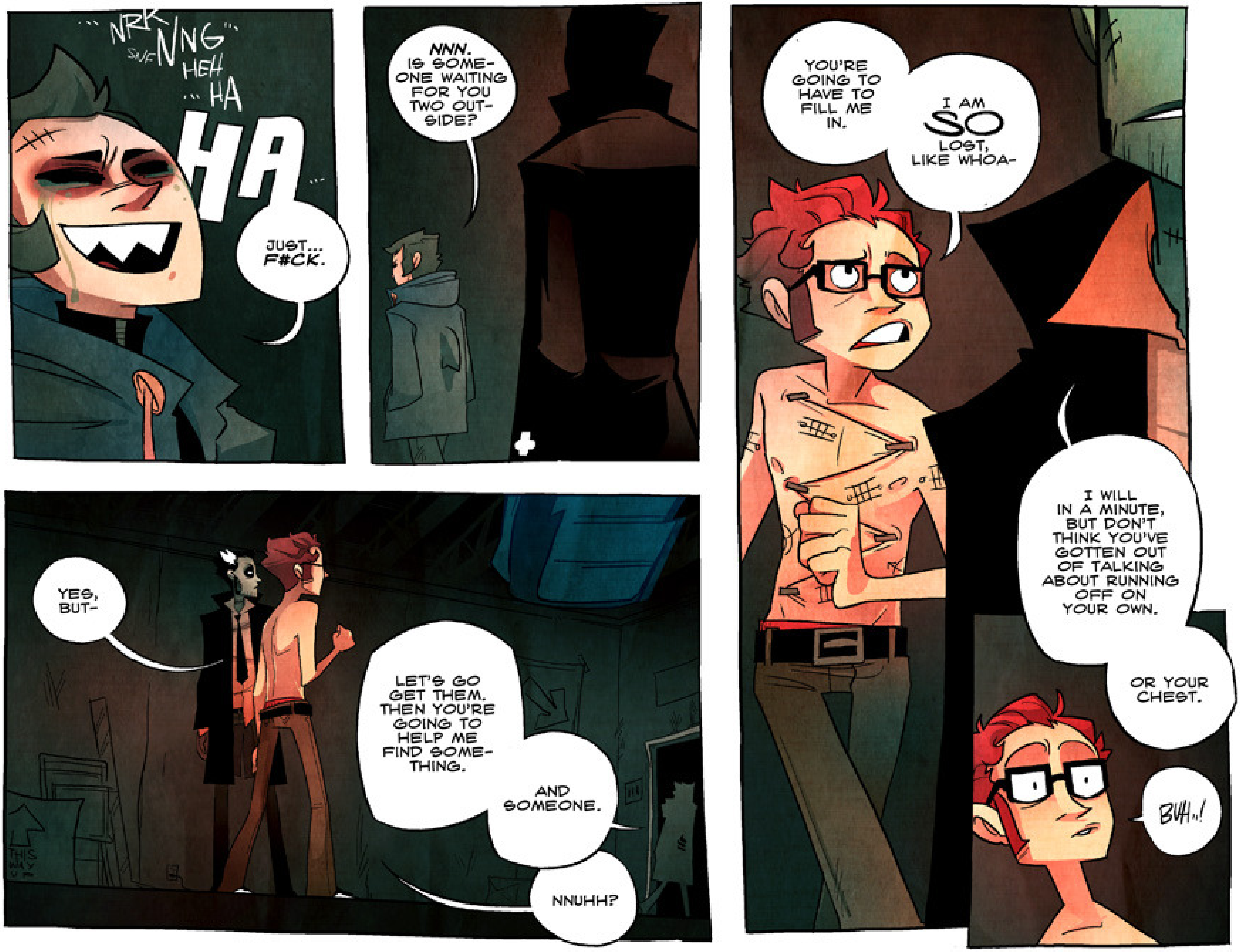

fwp fwp fwp
LET'S HURRY, LITTLE CRANE.
HANNA MIGHT NEED SOME HELP BY NOW.
WAIT!
YOU KNOW THE WAY OUT?
I NEED TO FIND VESER... ER, WELL, YOU DON'T KNOW WHO THAT IS...
tug TUG
SOMEONE WANTS TO KILL HIM... THEY ALMOST GOT TO ME, TOO.
I HAVE TO WARN HIM.

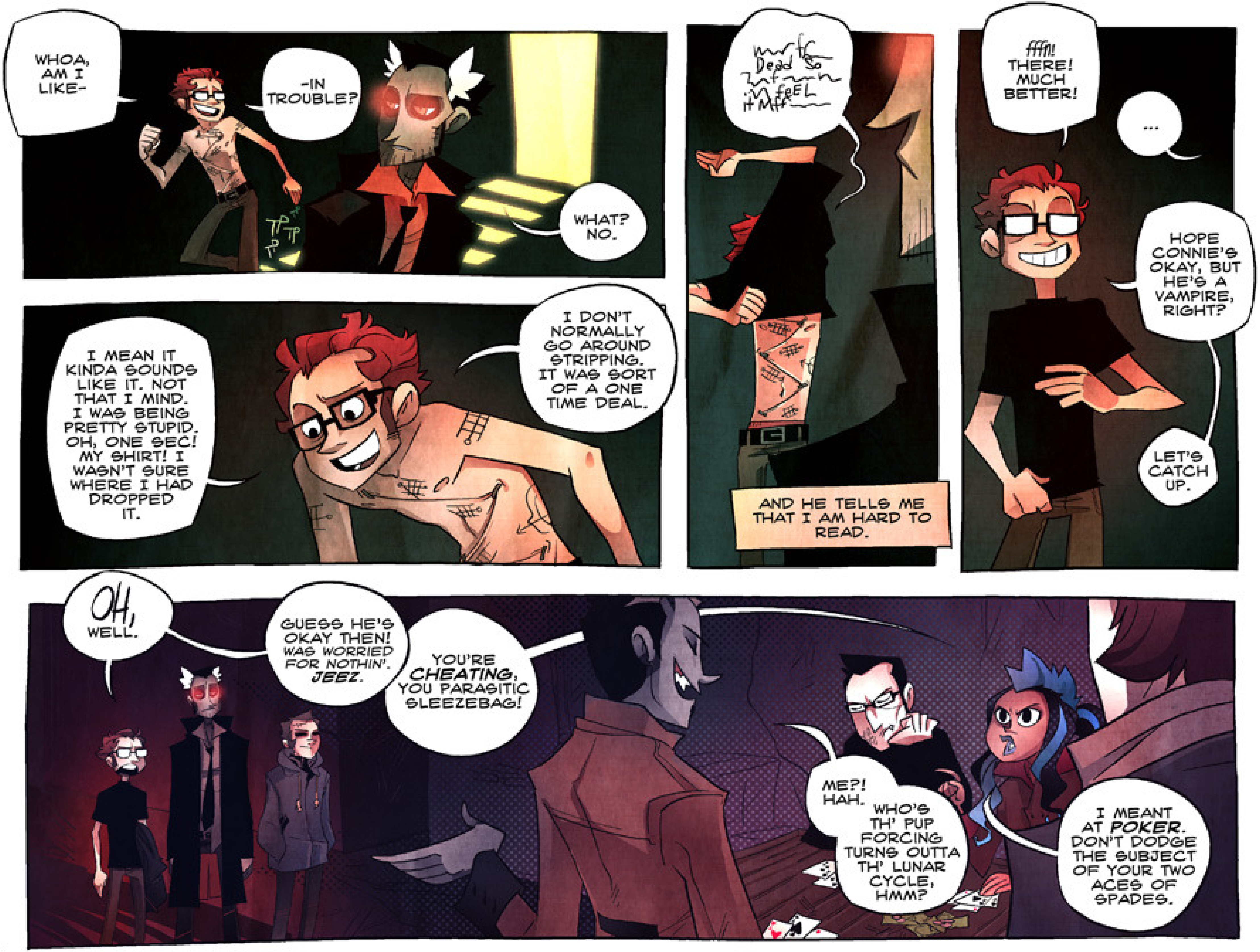

S-SAY SOME THING.
I'M SORRY.
WE'RE *BOTH* DEAD.
heh.
I GUESS I KNEW THAT ALREADY, I JUST...DIDN'T REALLY *WANT* TO.
TH-THE MAN AT THE BAR. HE WAS *RIGHT*.
...but there is always a possibility of death in everything we choose to do.
TICK TOK TIKK TOCKK TIK TOKK
D-DEATH? I WAS TALKING ABOUT JAIL!
Oh, my apologies. I just have known lesser men to kill for even lesser reasons.
TIK TIK TOK TIK TOK

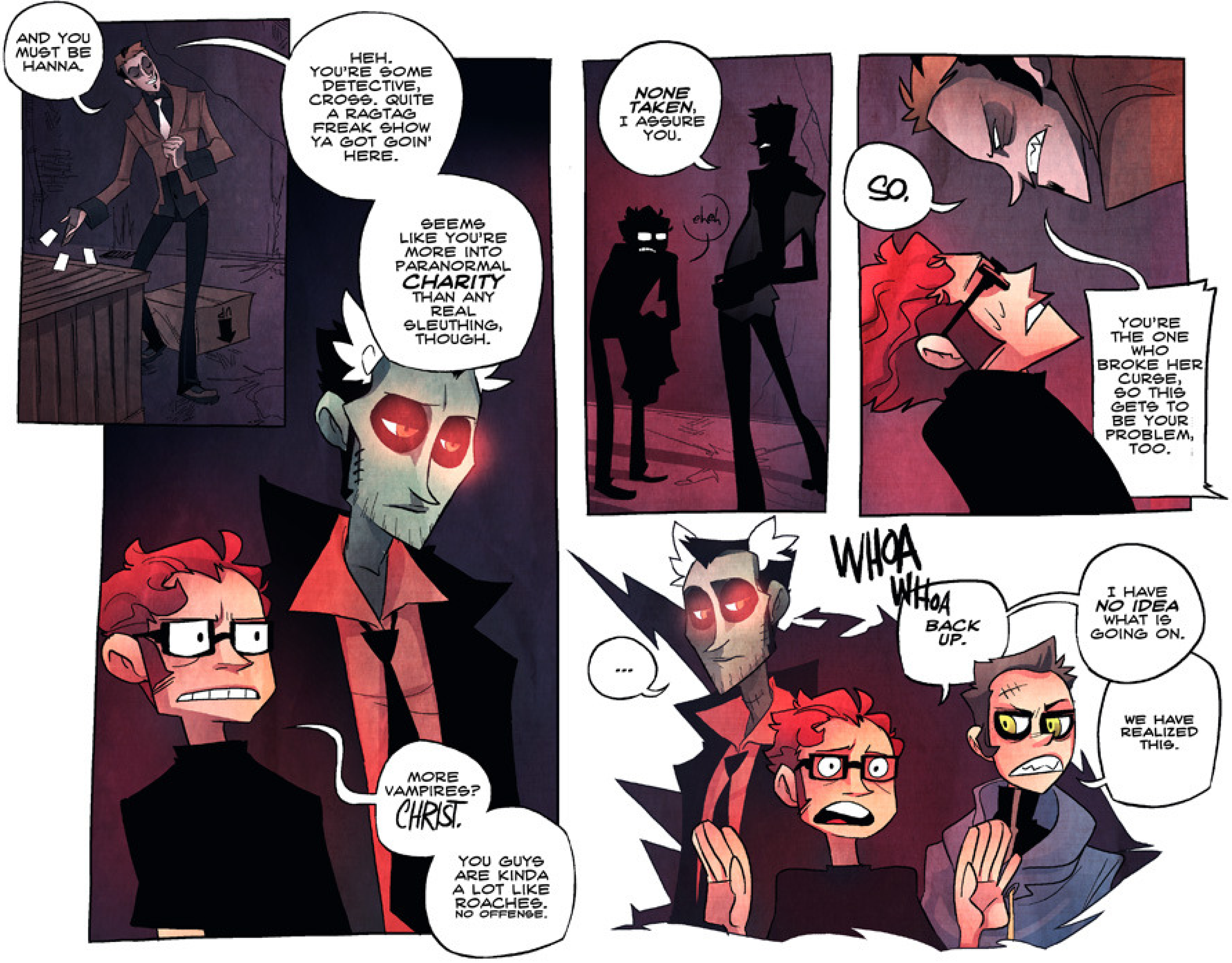

...
YOU'RE NOT KIDDING.
TK TICKK TOKK TK TOKK
F#CK, HOW DID I END UP POURING MY GUTS OUT TO A STRANGER?
You are a bit tipsy. Your sense of judgment isn't exactly at its peak.
TOKTICK TIKK TOK TK
Whatever you're thinking of doing, may I suggest waiting until you have your head about you?
TK TIK TK TOCK TK
GUH. THIS IS DUMB, NO ONE'S GOING TO KILL ANYONE.
MAYBE HE JUST DOESN'T KNOW HE'S HURTING HER. I'LL GO AND TALK TO HIM, I WON'T EVEN HAVE TO BREAK IN AND STEAL IT.
TIK TOKK TIK TKK TKTK TOK TICK TOCK
FAST STRONG
KING ALWAYS SINCE 1842
MAX OCCPY 32
SO DAMN STUPID.
KSSShhhHHHHH

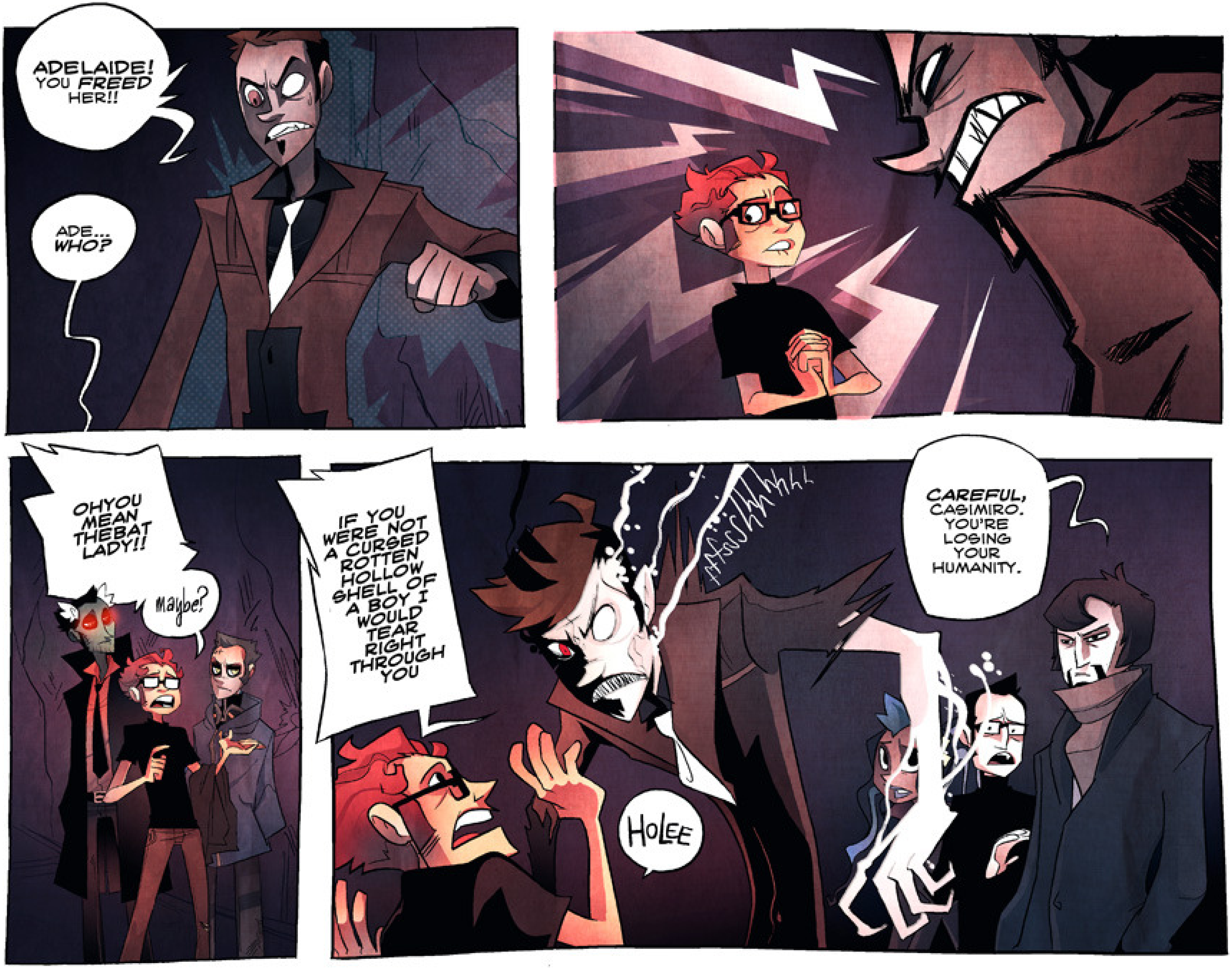

WAIT!
Who would've thought i would have had the MIND to deny DEATH when it actually HAPPENED...?
RINGO!
...
RINGO? REALLY?
HAHA, SORRY MAN. I.. I KINDA PANICKED, I GUESS. HEH.

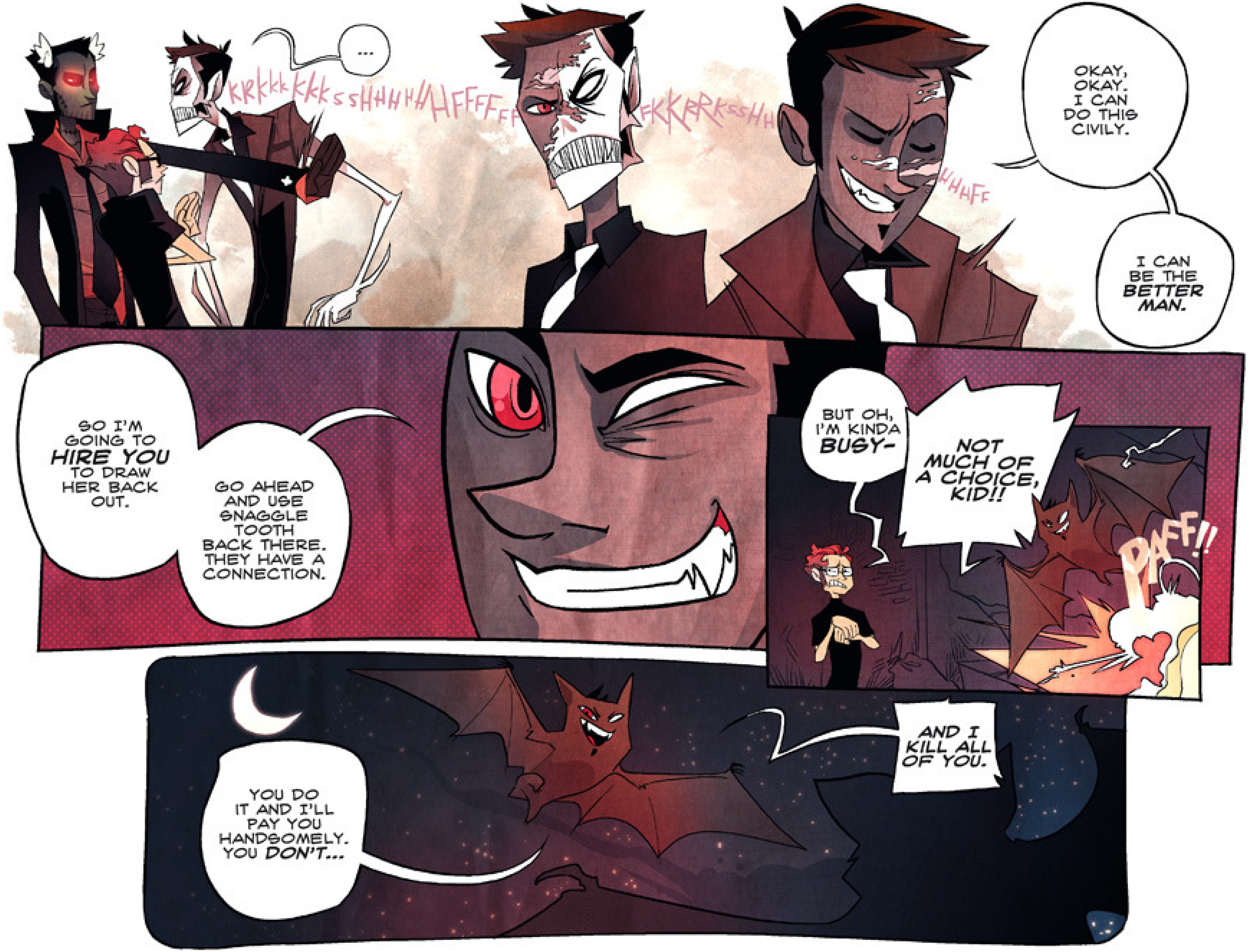

ARE CONRAD AND TONI OKAY?
ARE *YOU* OKAY?
ME?
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GOT POSESSED AND–
I'M FINE.
ARE *YOU?*
heh. YEAH, YEAH, I'M OKAY! YOU WORRY TOO MUCH, BRO!
I WORRY JUST ENOUGH, IT SEEMS.
YOU KNOW, IN EVERY HORROR MOVIE IT'S ALWAYS A BAD IDEA TO SPLIT UP...
HA! YOU'RE RIGHT!
NEG..
Mm.
YOUR NAME IS VESER, ISN'T IT? HE DIDN'T... KILL HIMSELF, IT WASN'T A SUICIDE. BUT YOU SHOULD COME WI–
HNK.
... SNP...
HRK
.. NG
SCHHT...
SNF Nn
HUHH..
... HAH SNC
HK GRK..
NNN
SCH
..EHK...
HAH..

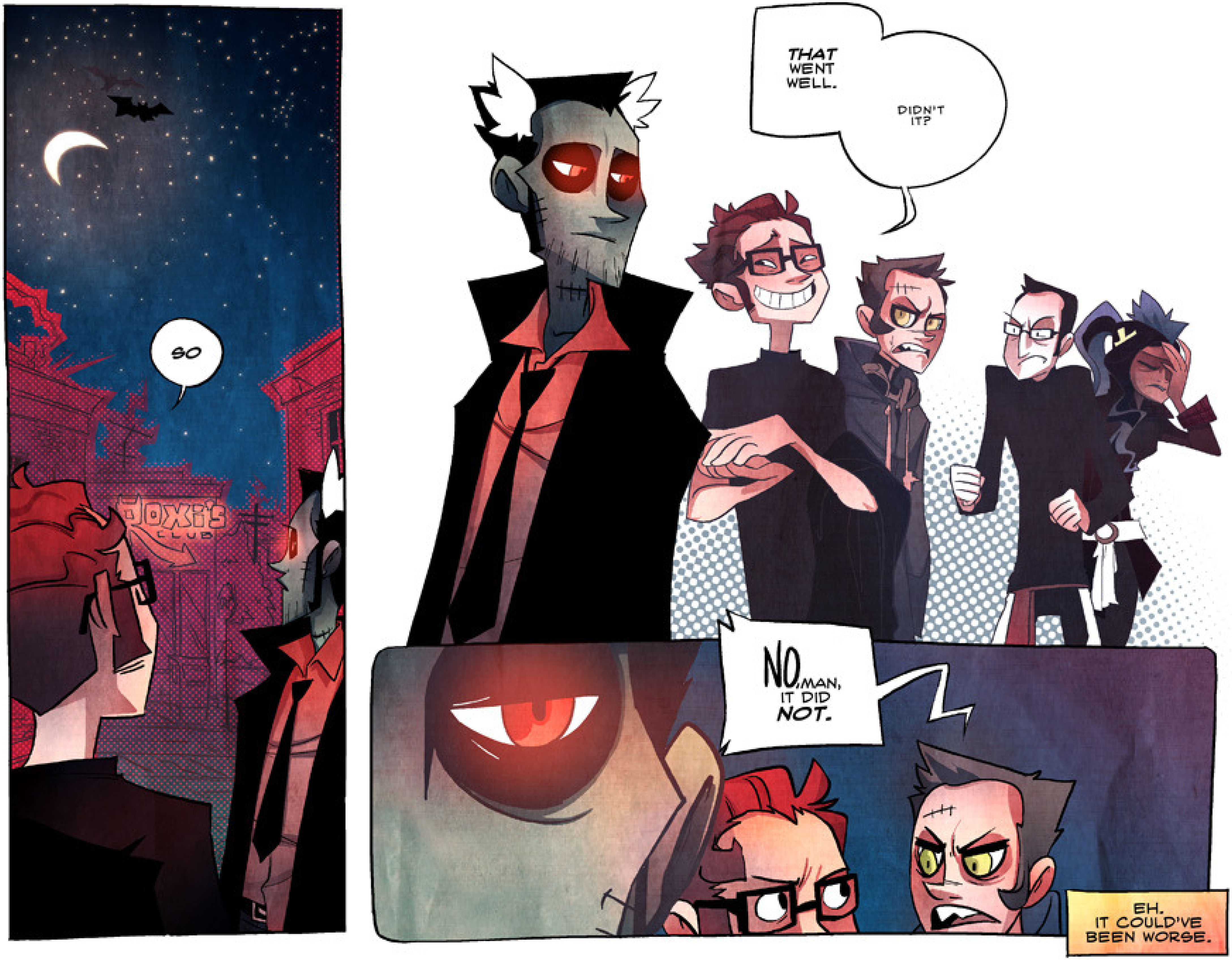

... NRK NNG ...
SNIF
HEH
... HA
HA ...
JUST... F#CK.
NNN. IS SOMEONE WAITING FOR YOU TWO OUTSIDE?
YES, BUT-
LET'S GO GET THEM. THEN YOU'RE GOING TO HELP ME FIND SOMETHING.
AND SOMEONE.
NNUHH?
THIS WAY
YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO FILL ME IN.
I AM SO LOST, LIKE WHOA-
I WILL IN A MINUTE, BUT DON'T THINK YOU'VE GOTTEN OUT OF TALKING ABOUT RUNNING OFF ON YOUR OWN.
OR YOUR CHEST.
BUH..!


WHOA, AM I LIKE-
-IN TROUBLE?
WHAT? NO.
I DON'T NORMALLY GO AROUND STRIPPING. IT WAS SORT OF A ONE TIME DEAL.
I MEAN IT KINDA SOUNDS LIKE IT. NOT THAT I MIND. I WAS BEING PRETTY STUPID. OH, ONE SEC! MY SHIRT! I WASN'T SURE WHERE I HAD DROPPED IT.
Dead so feel it Mff
AND HE TELLS ME THAT I AM HARD TO READ.
ffffn! THERE! MUCH BETTER!
...
HOPE CONNIE'S OKAY, BUT HE'S A VAMPIRE, RIGHT?
LET'S CATCH UP.
OH, WELL.
GUESS HE'S OKAY THEN! WAS WORRIED FOR NOTHIN'. JEEZ.
YOU'RE CHEATING, YOU PARASITIC SLEEZEBAG!
ME?! HAH.
WHO'S TH' PUP FORCING TURNS OUTTA TH' LUNAR CYCLE, HMM?
I MEANT AT POKER. DON'T DODGE THE SUBJECT OF YOUR TWO ACES OF SPADES.


AND YOU MUST BE HANNA.
HEH. YOU'RE SOME DETECTIVE, CROSS. QUITE A RAGTAG FREAK SHOW YA GOT GOIN' HERE.
SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE MORE INTO PARANORMAL *CHARITY* THAN ANY REAL SLEUTHING, THOUGH.
MORE VAMPIRES? CHRIST.
YOU GUYS ARE KINDA A LOT LIKE ROACHES. NO OFFENSE.
NONE TAKEN, I ASSURE YOU.
eheh
SO.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO BROKE HER CURSE, SO THIS GETS TO BE YOUR PROBLEM, TOO.
...
WHOA WHOA
BACK UP.
I HAVE *NO IDEA* WHAT IS GOING ON.
WE HAVE REALIZED THIS.


ADELAIDE! YOU FREED HER!!
ADE... WHO?
OHYOU MEAN THEBAT LADY!!
maybe?
IF YOU WERE NOT A CURSED ROTTEN HOLLOW SHELL OF A BOY I WOULD TEAR RIGHT THROUGH YOU
HHssshhhhhhhh
HOLEE
CAREFUL, CASIMIRO. YOU'RE LOSING YOUR HUMANITY.


...
KRKKKKKKSSHHHHHHHFFFFFF
KKKRRKSSHH
HHHFF
OKAY, OKAY. I CAN DO THIS CIVILY.
I CAN BE THE *BETTER MAN.*
SO I'M GOING TO *HIRE YOU* TO DRAW HER BACK OUT.
GO AHEAD AND USE SNAGGLE TOOTH BACK THERE. THEY HAVE A CONNECTION.
BUT OH, I'M KINDA *BUSY-*
NOT MUCH OF A CHOICE, KID!!
PAFF!!
YOU DO IT AND I'LL PAY YOU HANDSOMELY. YOU *DON'T...*
AND I KILL ALL OF YOU.

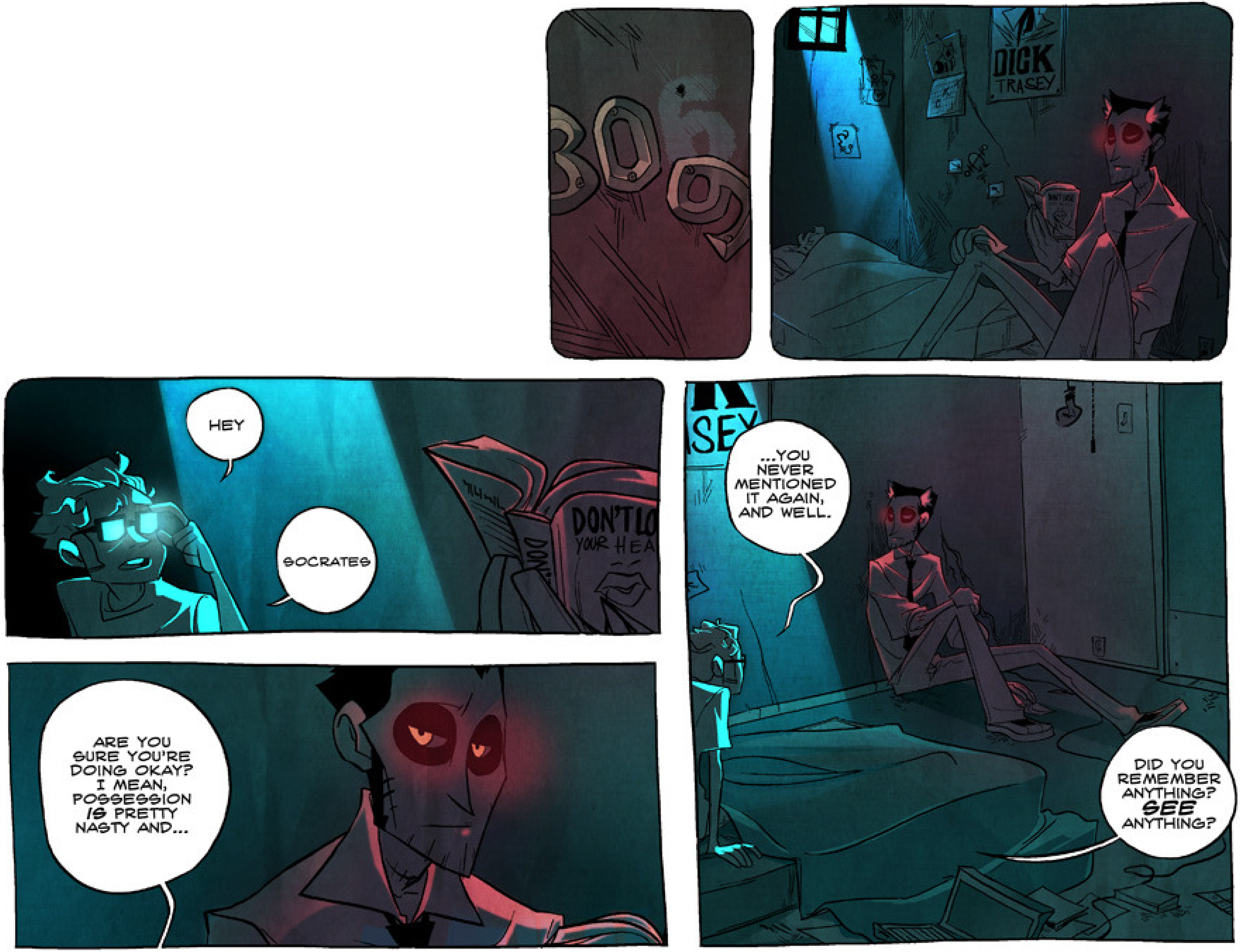

Doxi's
CLUB
SO
THAT WENT WELL.
DIDN'T IT?
NO, MAN, IT DID NOT.
EH. IT COULD'VE BEEN WORSE.

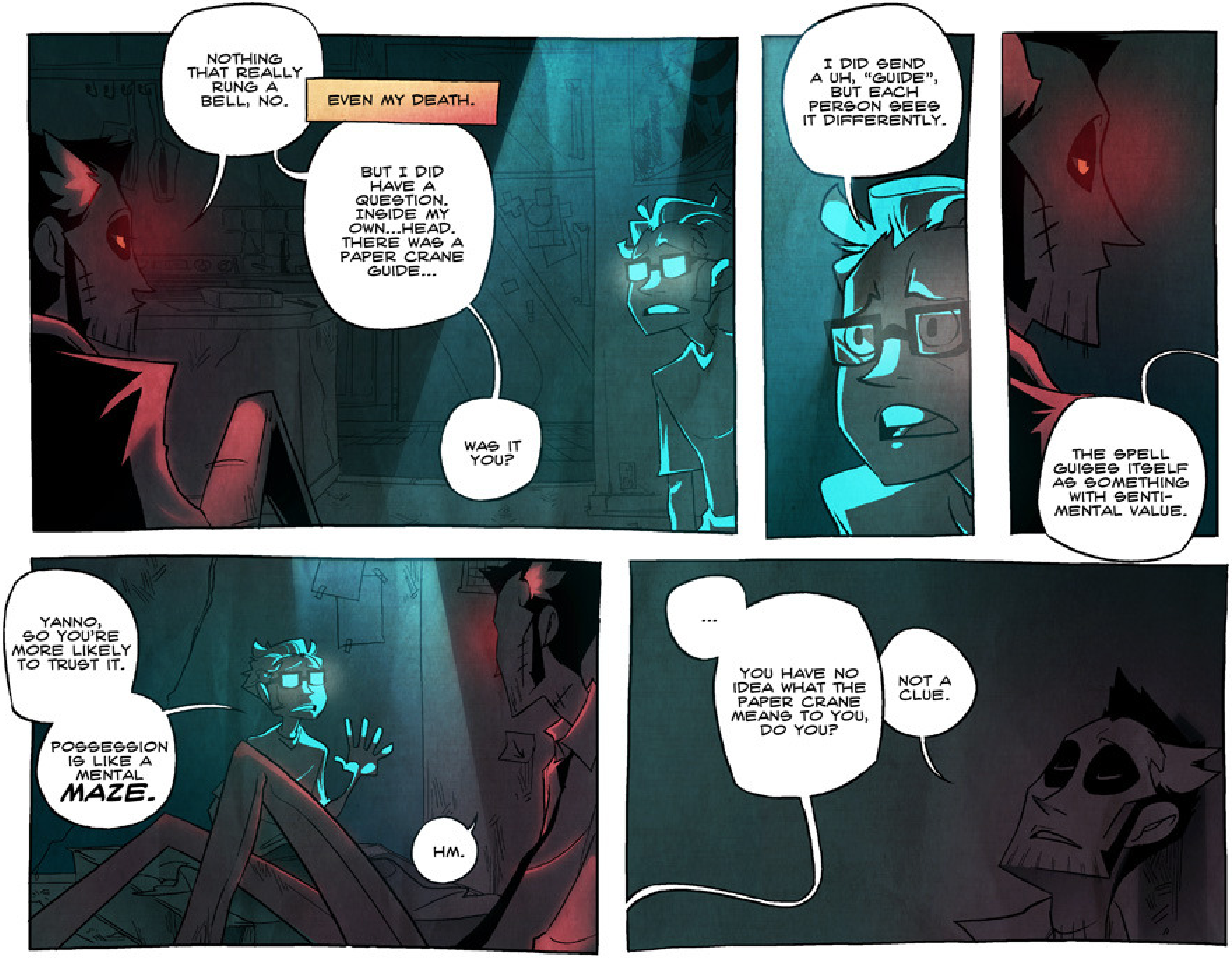
molto cresc.
Retenu
i found i found it
i found it
i found it
i found it
pizz.
i found it
found it
found it
found it

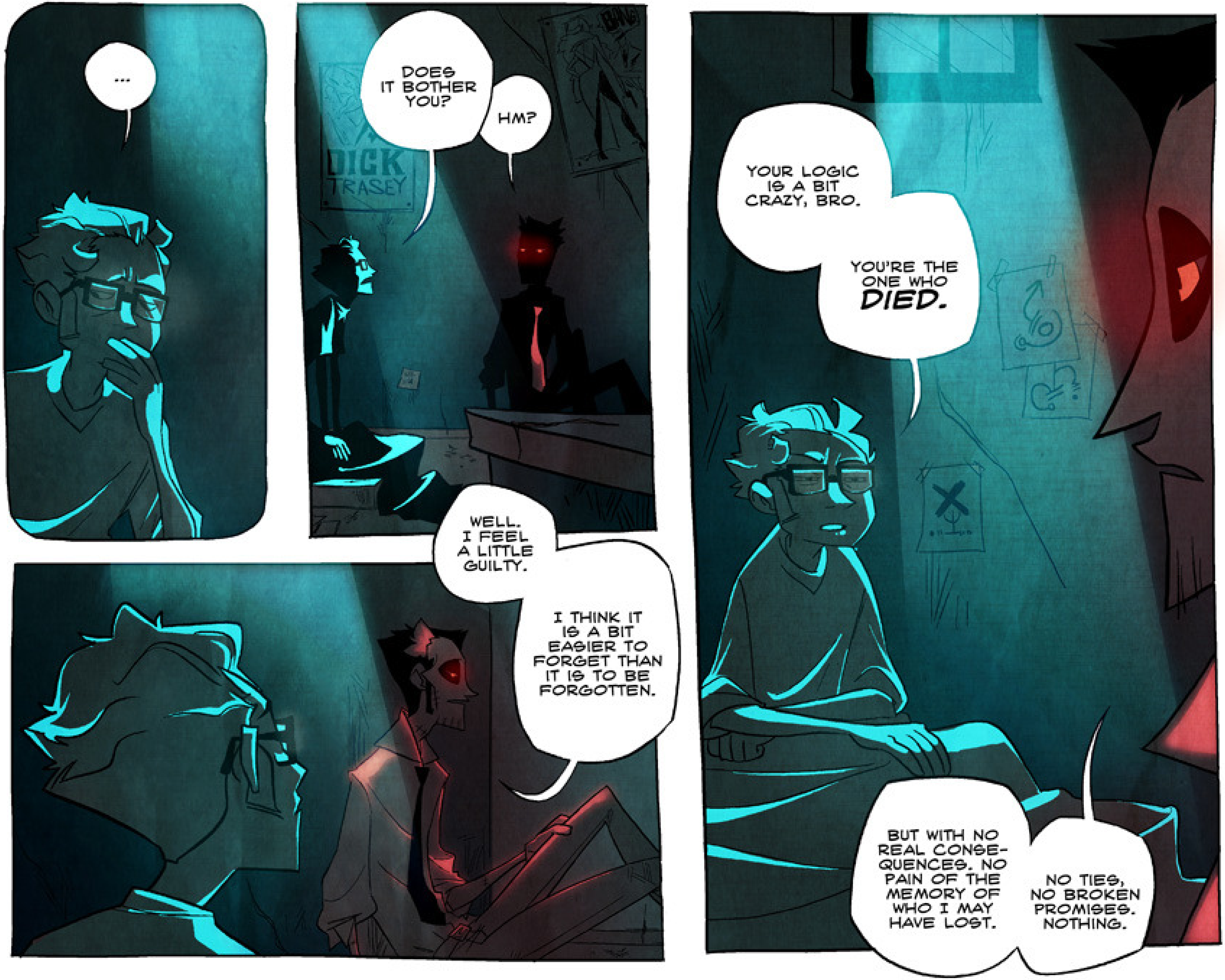
hanna is NOT a BOY'S NAME!

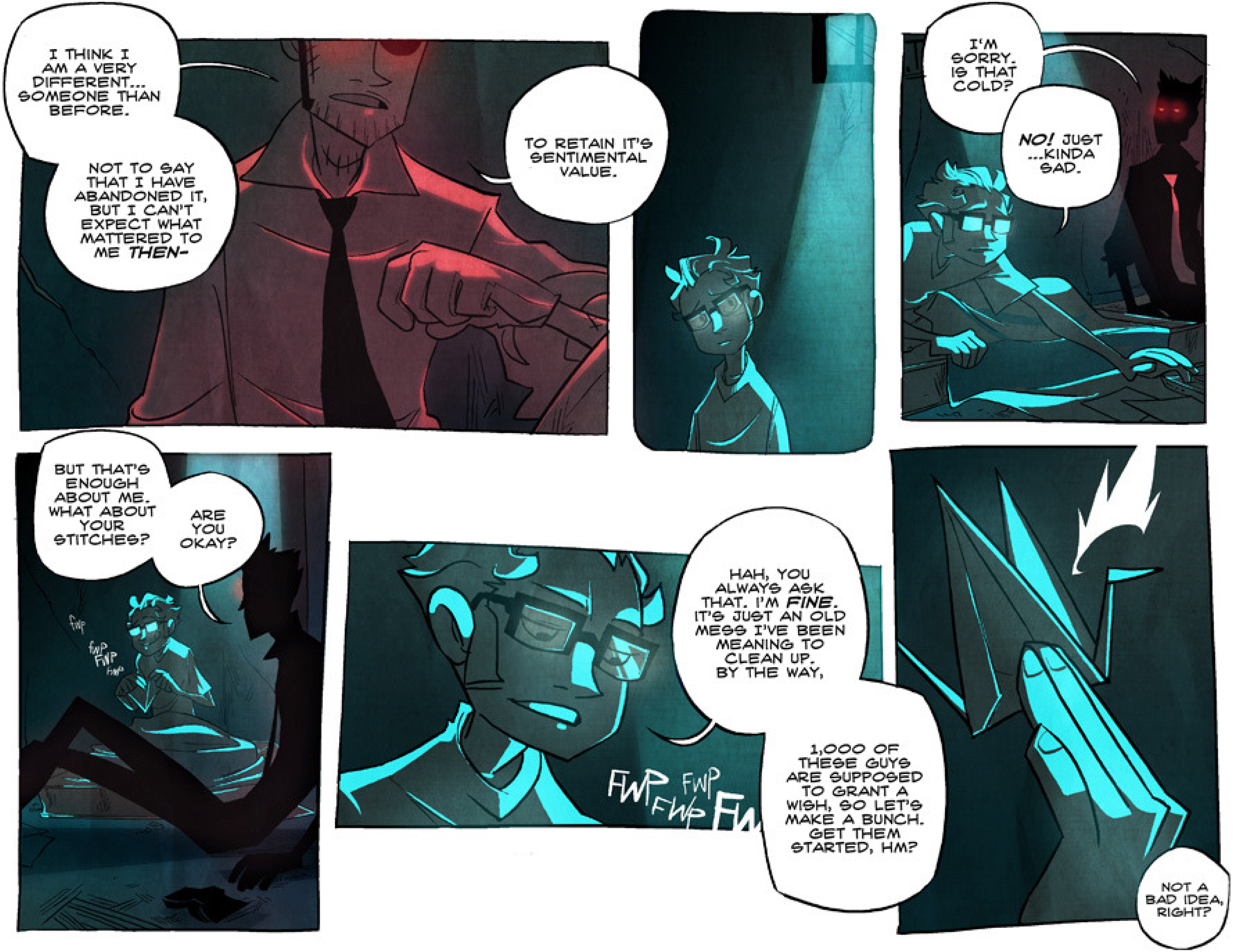
2

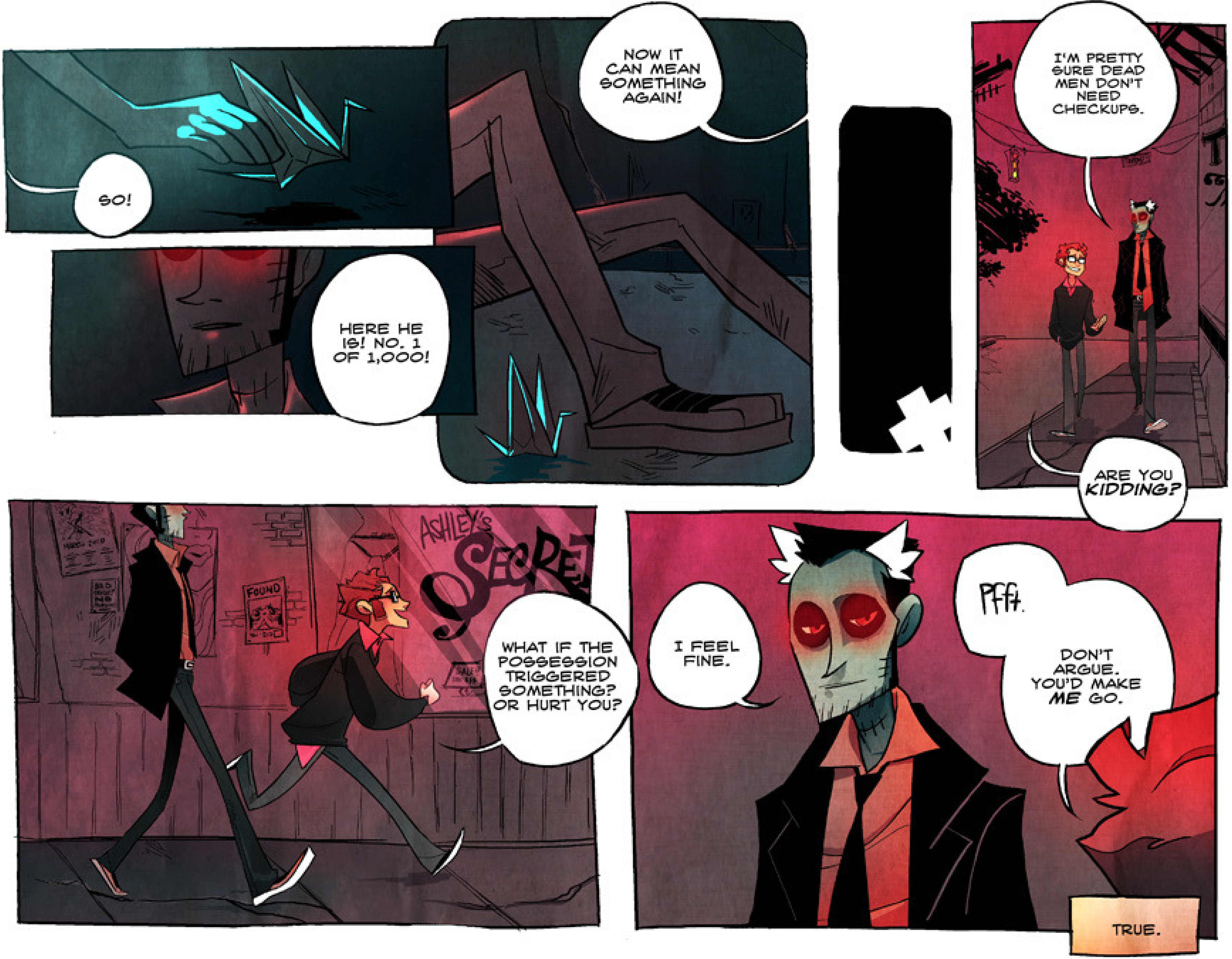
in which a ghost becomes too much of a theater critic

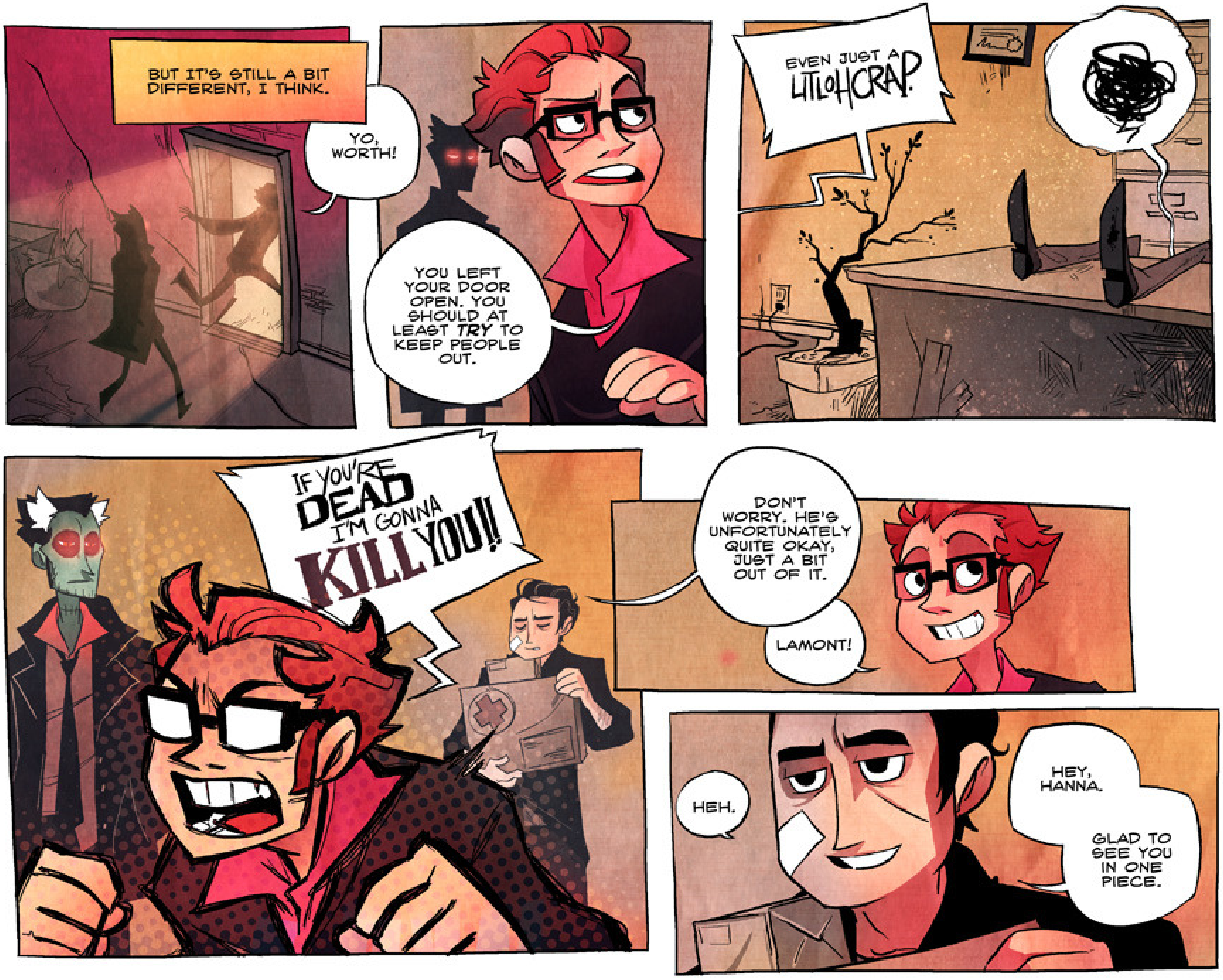

30
DICK TRASEY
DON'T LO YOUR HEA
HEY
SOCRATES
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE DOING OKAY? I MEAN, POSSESSION *IS* PRETTY NASTY AND...
...YOU NEVER MENTIONED IT AGAIN, AND WELL.
DID YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING? ***SEE*** ANYTHING?

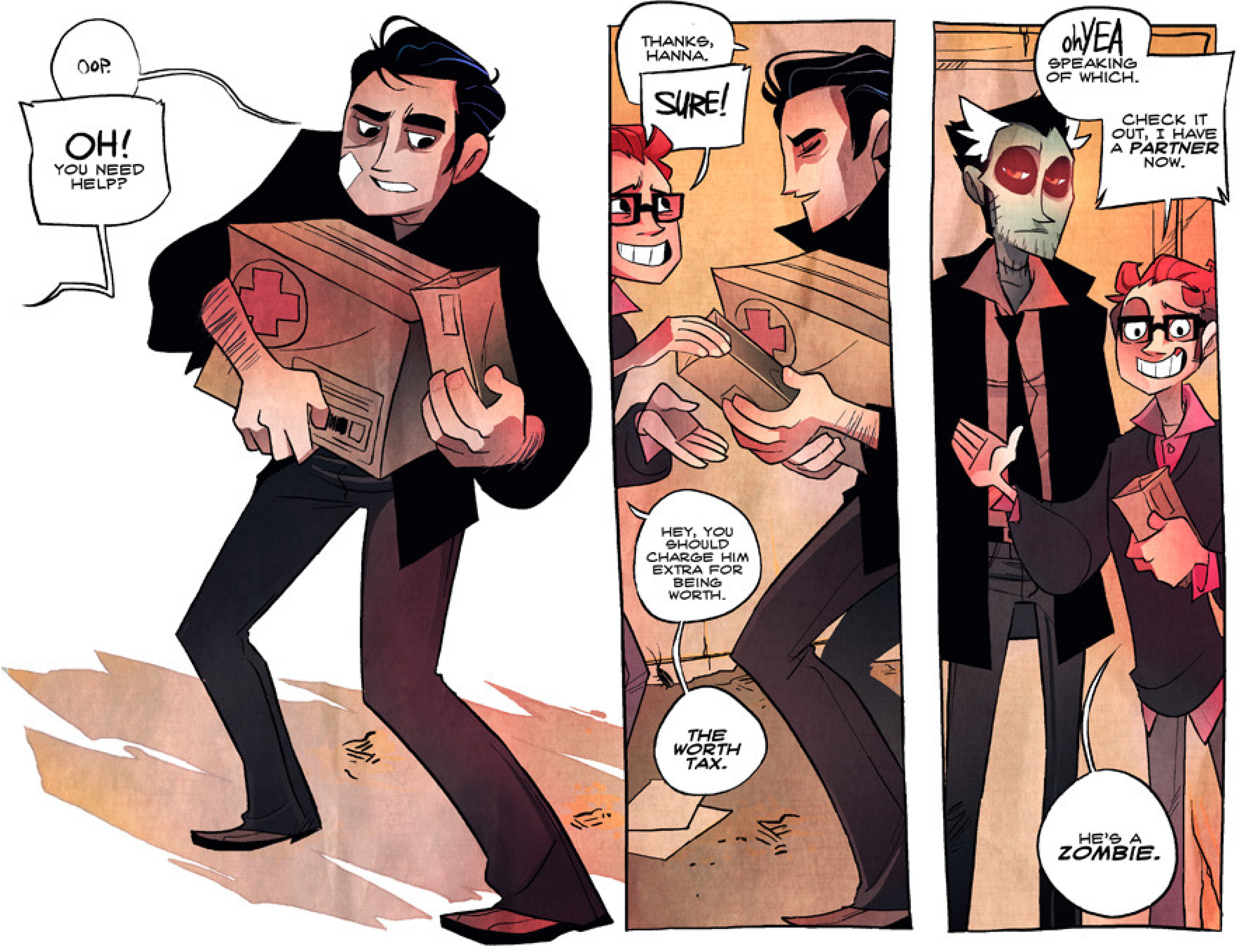

NOTHING THAT REALLY RUNG A BELL, NO.
EVEN MY DEATH.
BUT I DID HAVE A QUESTION. INSIDE MY OWN...HEAD. THERE WAS A PAPER CRANE GUIDE...
WAS IT YOU?
I DID SEND A UH, "GUIDE", BUT EACH PERSON SEES IT DIFFERENTLY.
THE SPELL GUISES ITSELF AS SOMETHING WITH SENTI-MENTAL VALUE.
YANNO, SO YOU'RE MORE LIKELY TO TRUST IT.
POSSESSION IS LIKE A MENTAL *MAZE.*
HM.
...
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THE PAPER CRANE MEANS TO YOU, DO YOU?
NOT A CLUE.

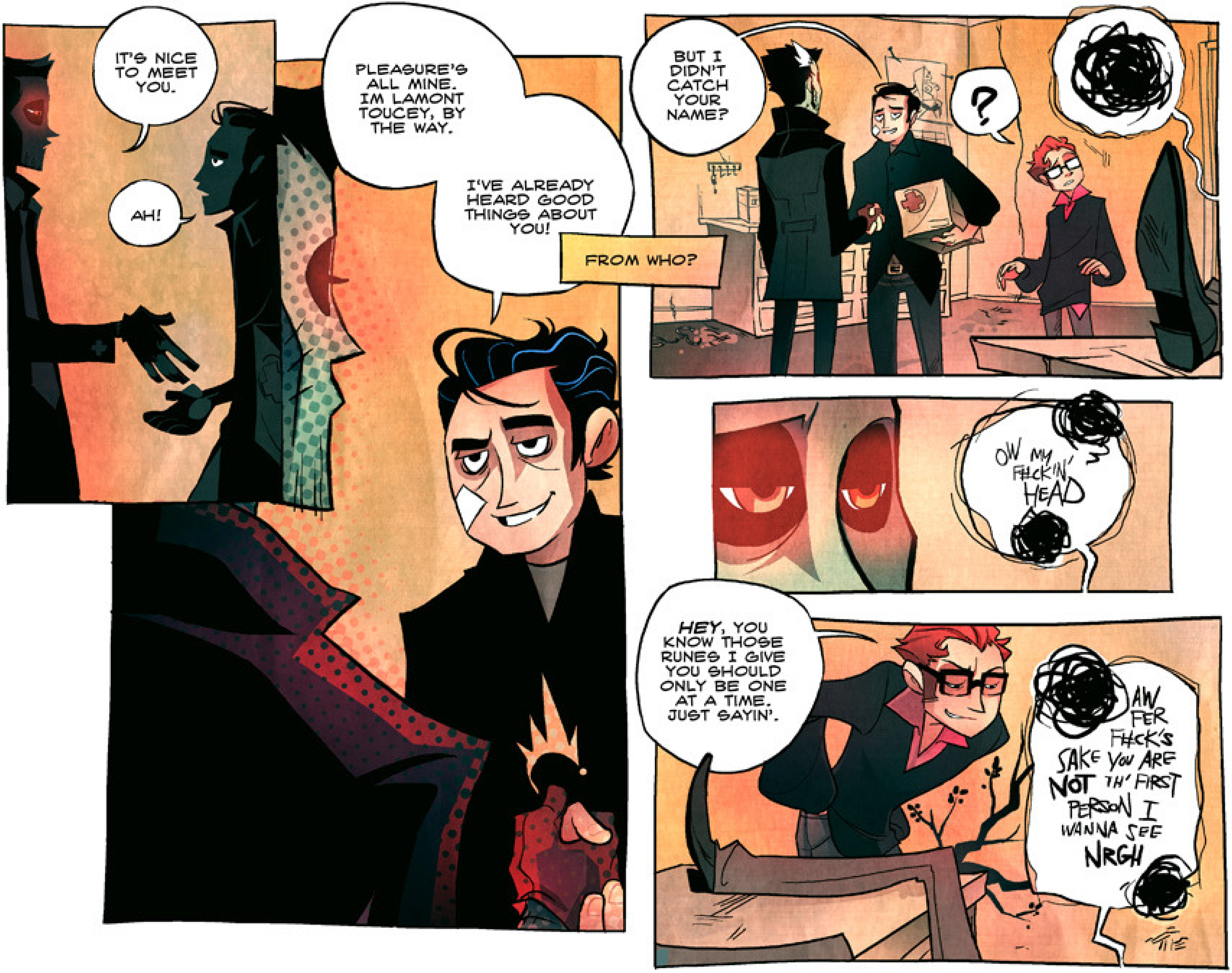

...
DOES IT BOTHER YOU?
HM?
DICK TRASEY
BANG
WELL. I FEEL A LITTLE GUILTY.
I THINK IT IS A BIT EASIER TO FORGET THAN IT IS TO BE FORGOTTEN.
YOUR LOGIC IS A BIT CRAZY, BRO.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO *DIED.*
BUT WITH NO REAL CONSEQUENCES. NO PAIN OF THE MEMORY OF WHO I MAY HAVE LOST.
NO TIES, NO BROKEN PROMISES. NOTHING.

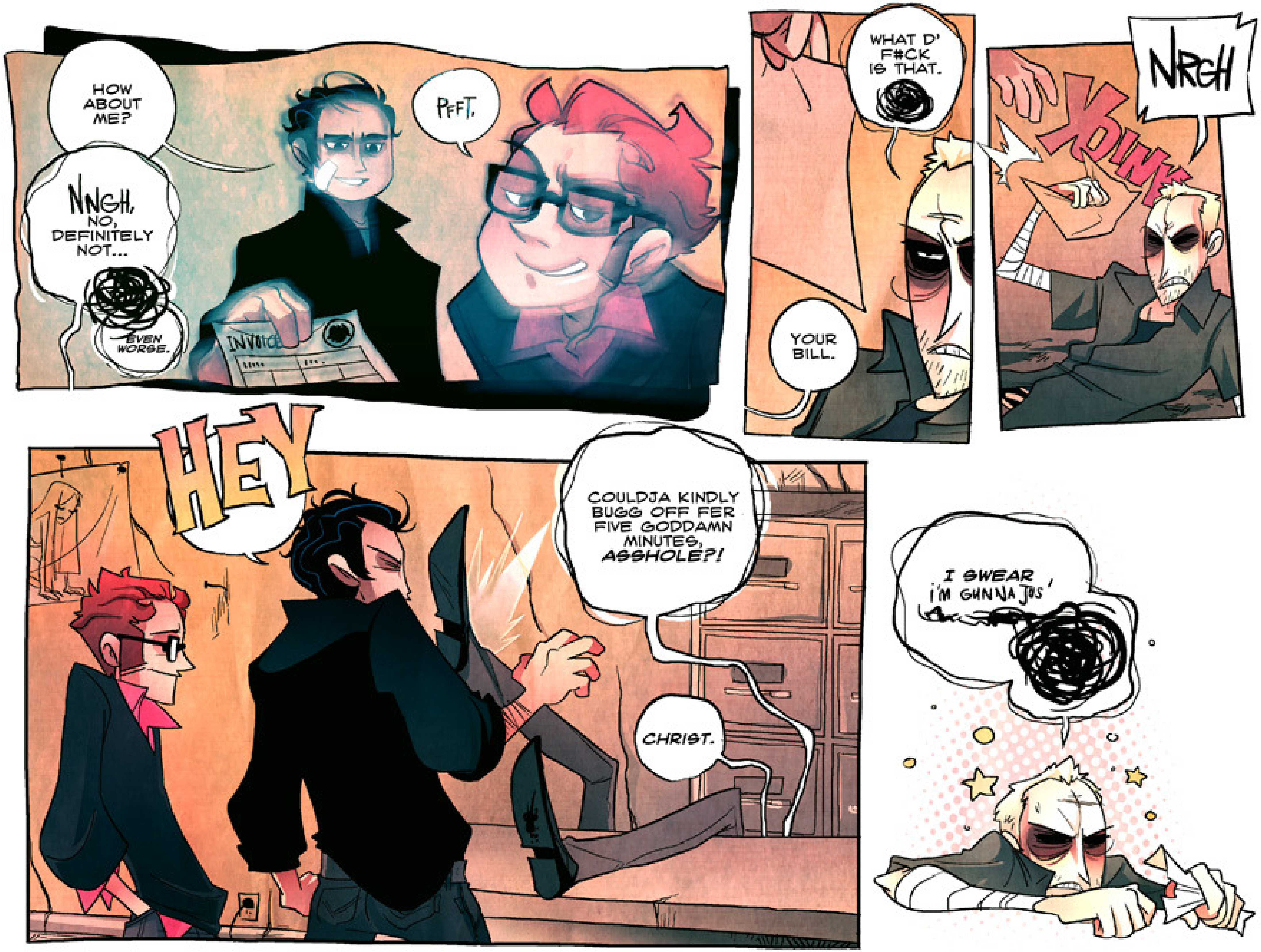

I THINK I AM A VERY DIFFERENT... SOMEONE THAN BEFORE.
NOT TO SAY THAT I HAVE ABANDONED IT, BUT I CAN'T EXPECT WHAT MATTERED TO ME *THEN*-
TO RETAIN IT'S SENTIMENTAL VALUE.
I'M SORRY. IS THAT COLD?
NO! JUST ...KINDA SAD.
BUT THAT'S ENOUGH ABOUT ME. WHAT ABOUT YOUR STITCHES?
ARE YOU OKAY?
FWP
FWP FWP FWP
HAH, YOU ALWAYS ASK THAT. I'M *FINE*. IT'S JUST AN OLD MESS I'VE BEEN MEANING TO CLEAN UP. BY THE WAY,
FWP FWP FWP
1,000 OF THESE GUYS ARE SUPPOSED TO GRANT A WISH, SO LET'S MAKE A BUNCH. GET THEM STARTED, HM?
NOT A BAD IDEA, RIGHT?

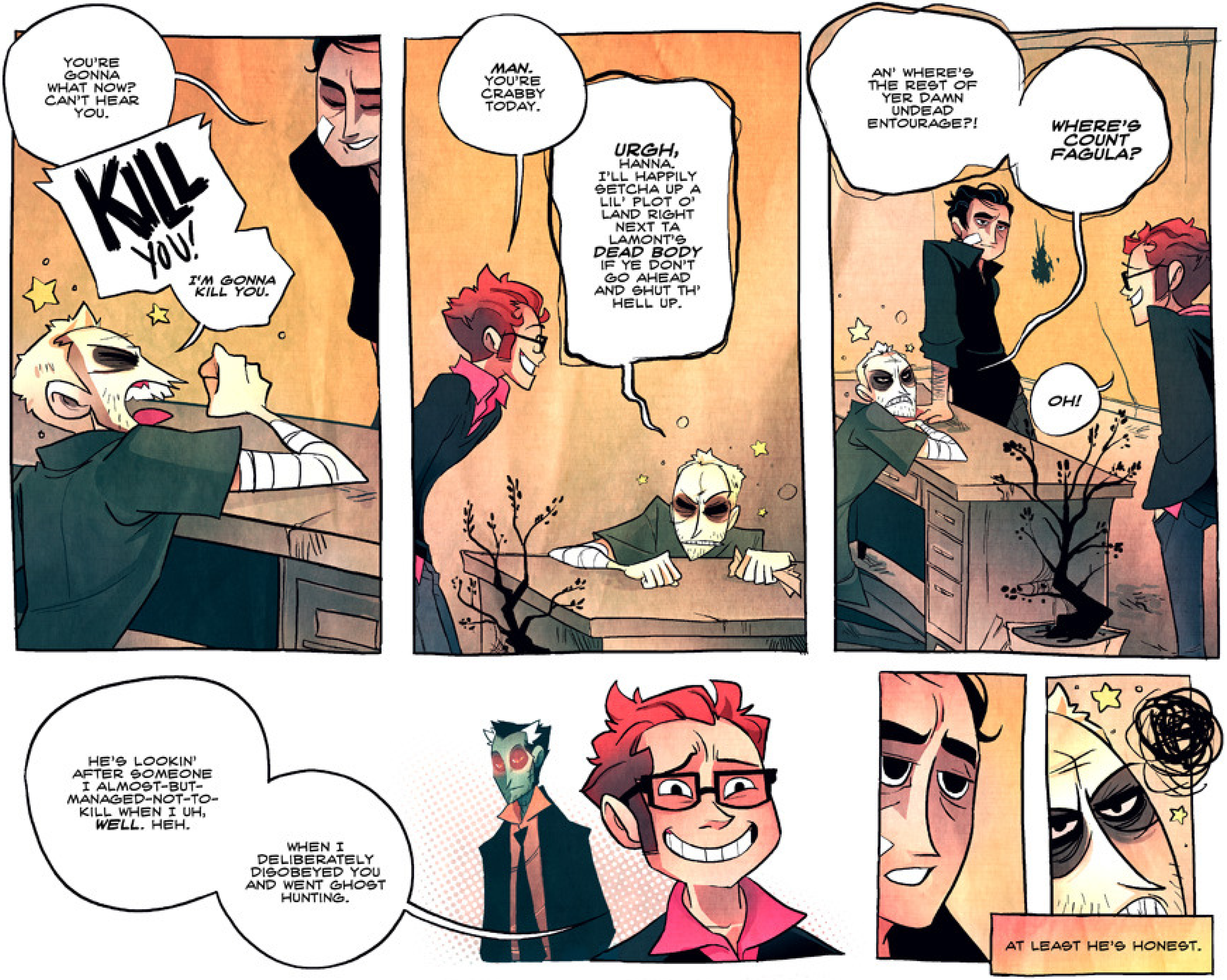

SO!
HERE HE IS! NO. 1 OF 1,000!
NOW IT CAN MEAN SOMETHING AGAIN!
I'M PRETTY SURE DEAD MEN DON'T NEED CHECKUPS.
ARE YOU *KIDDING?*
ASHLEY'S
SECRE
FOUND
WHAT IF THE POSSESSION TRIGGERED SOMETHING? OR HURT YOU?
I FEEL FINE.
Pfft.
DON'T ARGUE. YOU'D MAKE *ME* GO.
TRUE.

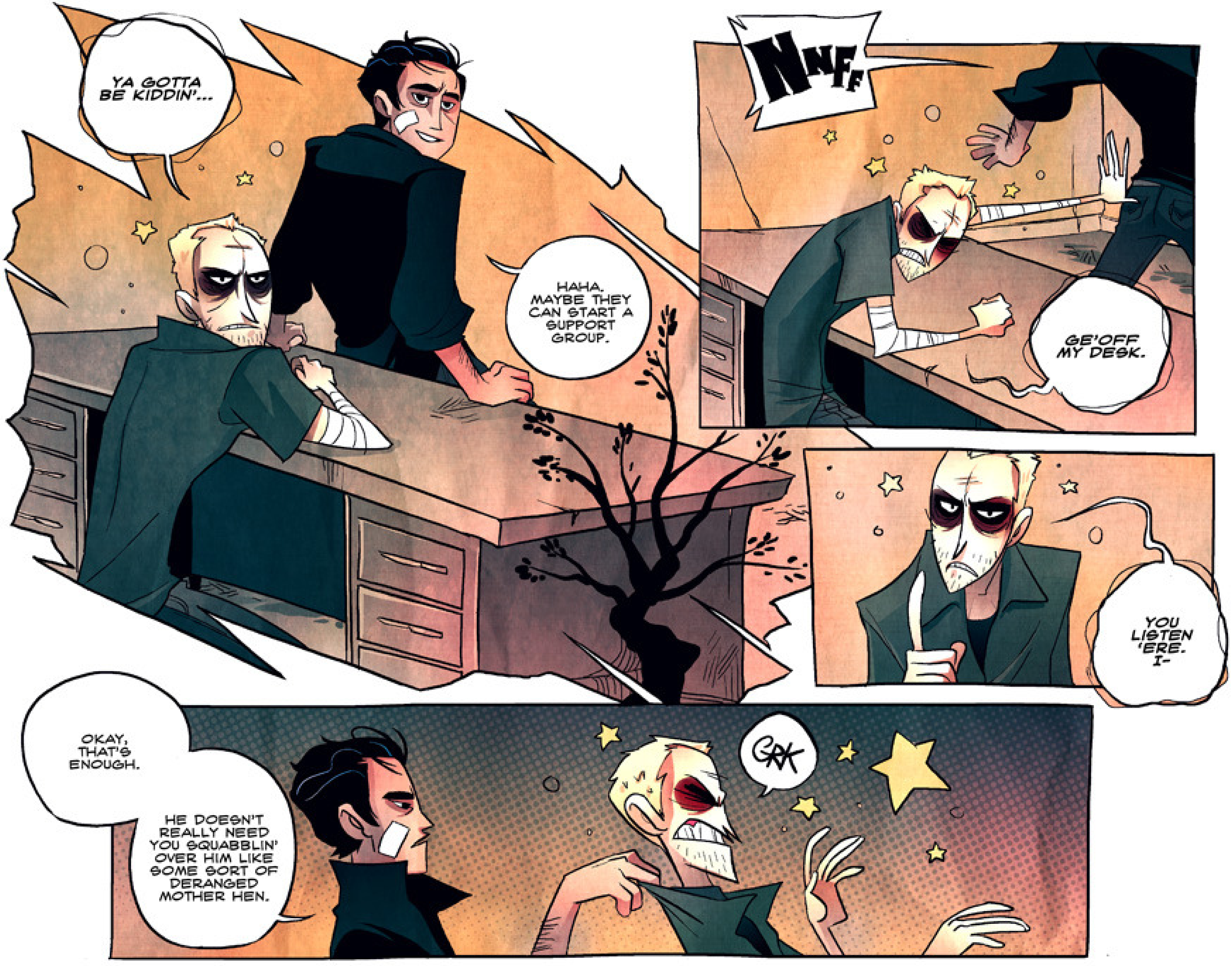

BUT IT'S STILL A BIT DIFFERENT, I THINK.
YO, WORTH!
YOU LEFT YOUR DOOR OPEN. YOU SHOULD AT LEAST *TRY* TO KEEP PEOPLE OUT.
EVEN JUST A LITLOHCRAP.
IF YOU'RE DEAD I'M GONNA KILL YOU!!
DON'T WORRY. HE'S UNFORTUNATELY QUITE OKAY, JUST A BIT OUT OF IT.
LAMONT!
HEH.
HEY, HANNA.
GLAD TO SEE YOU IN ONE PIECE.

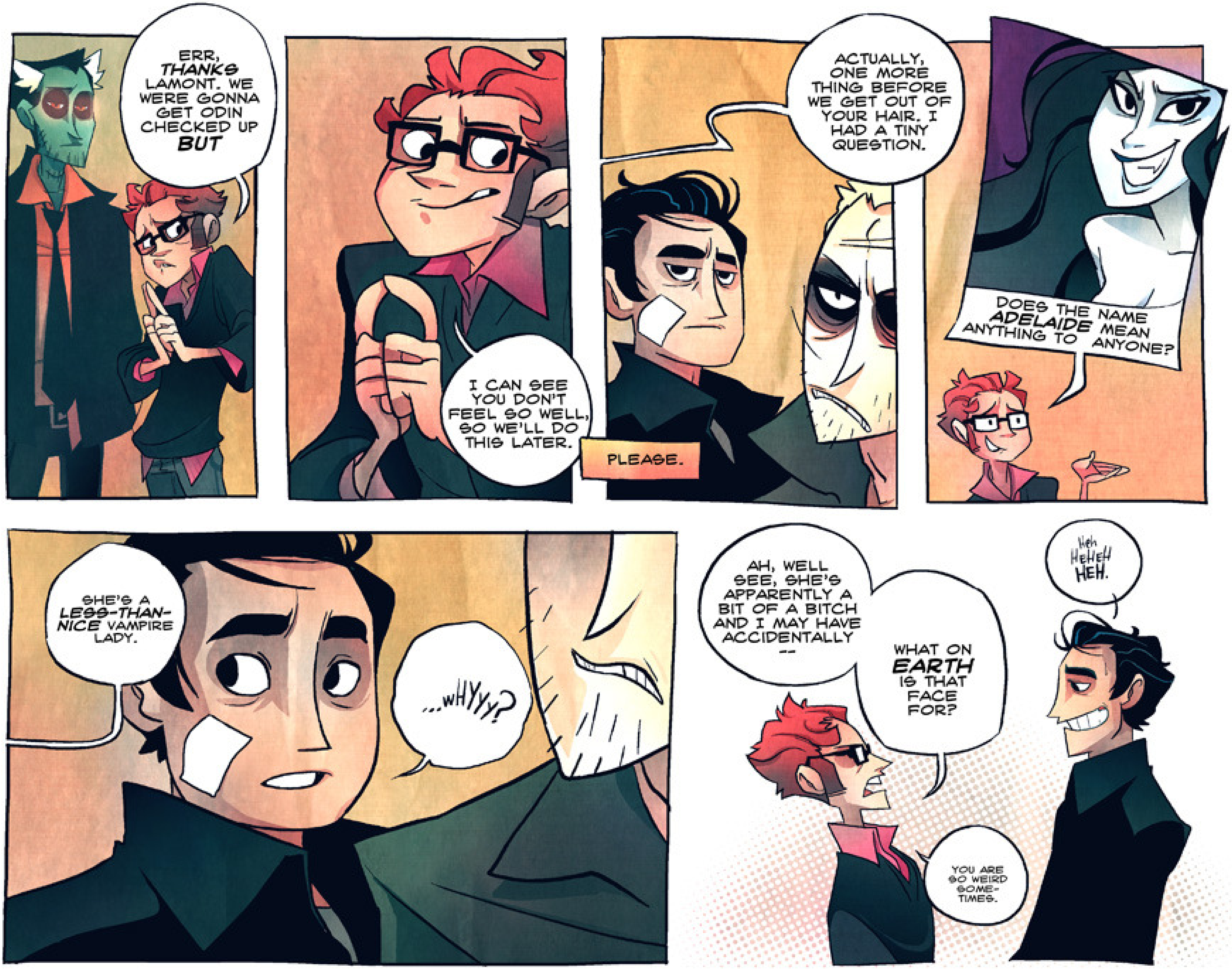

OOP.
OH! YOU NEED HELP?
THANKS, HANNA.
SURE!
HEY, YOU SHOULD CHARGE HIM EXTRA FOR BEING WORTH.
THE WORTH TAX.
ohYEA SPEAKING OF WHICH.
CHECK IT OUT, I HAVE A PARTNER NOW.
HE'S A ZOMBIE.

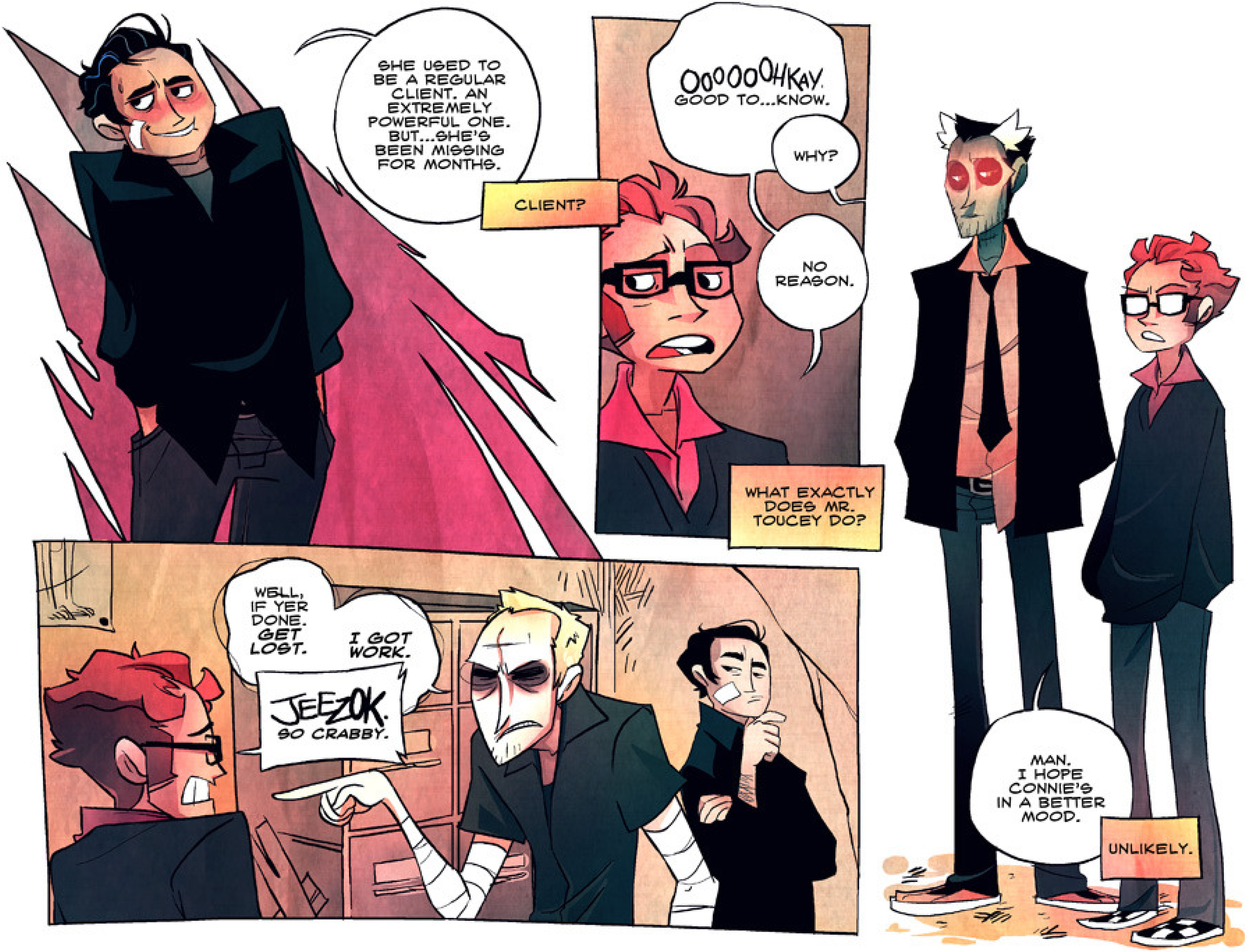

IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU.
AH!
PLEASURE'S ALL MINE. IM LAMONT TOUCEY, BY THE WAY.
I'VE ALREADY HEARD GOOD THINGS ABOUT YOU!
FROM WHO?
BUT I DIDN'T CATCH YOUR NAME?
?
OW MY F#CK'IN' HEAD
HEY, YOU KNOW THOSE RUNES I GIVE YOU SHOULD ONLY BE ONE AT A TIME. JUST SAYIN'.
AW FER F#CK'S SAKE YOU ARE NOT TH' FIRST PERSON I WANNA SEE NRGH

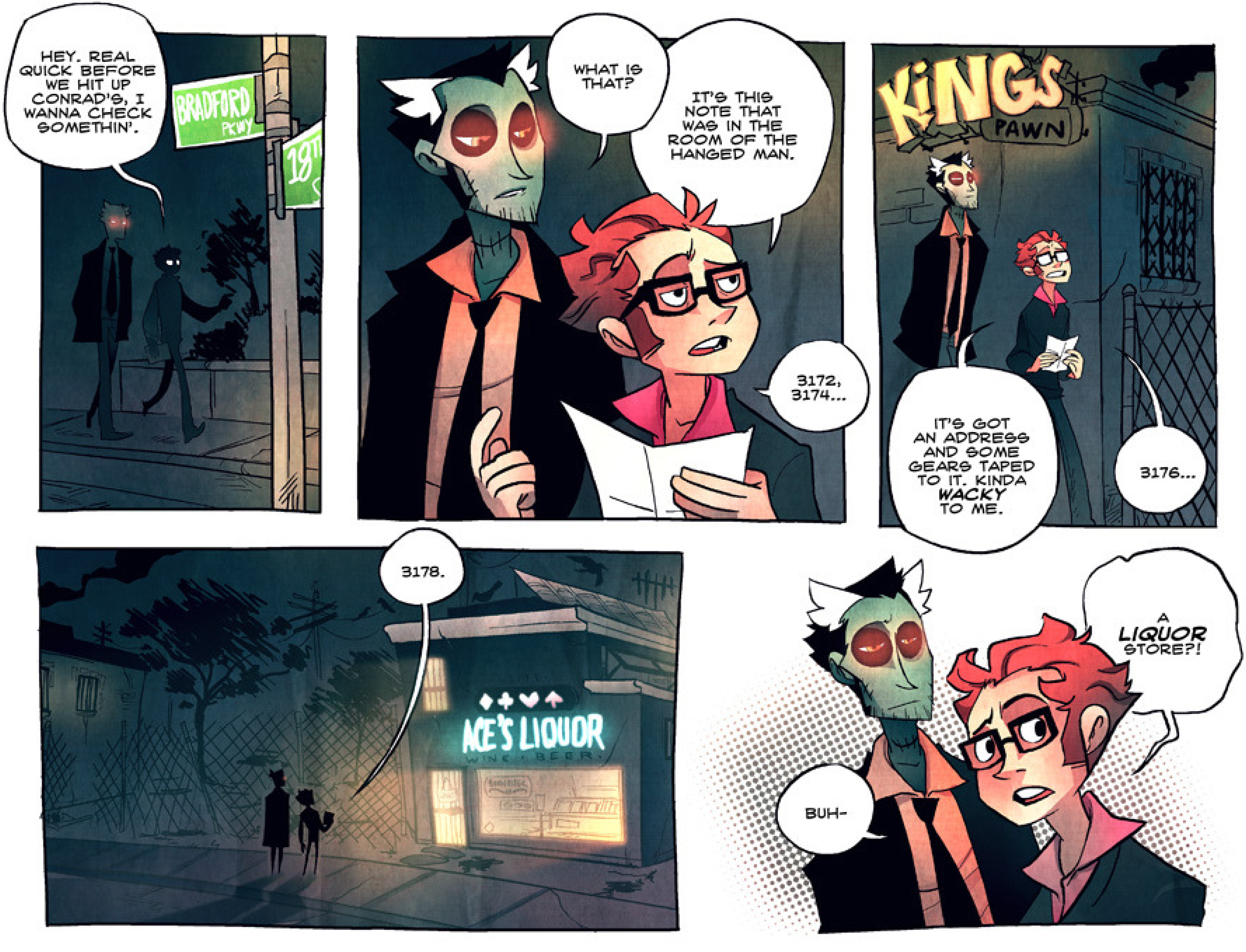

HOW ABOUT ME?
NNGH, NO, DEFINITELY NOT...
EVEN WORSE.
PFFT.
INVOICE
WHAT D' F#CK IS THAT.
YOUR BILL.
YOINK
NRGH
HEY
COULDJA KINDLY BUGG OFF FER FIVE GODDAMN MINUTES, ASSHOLE?!
CHRIST.
I SWEAR I'M GUNNA JUS'

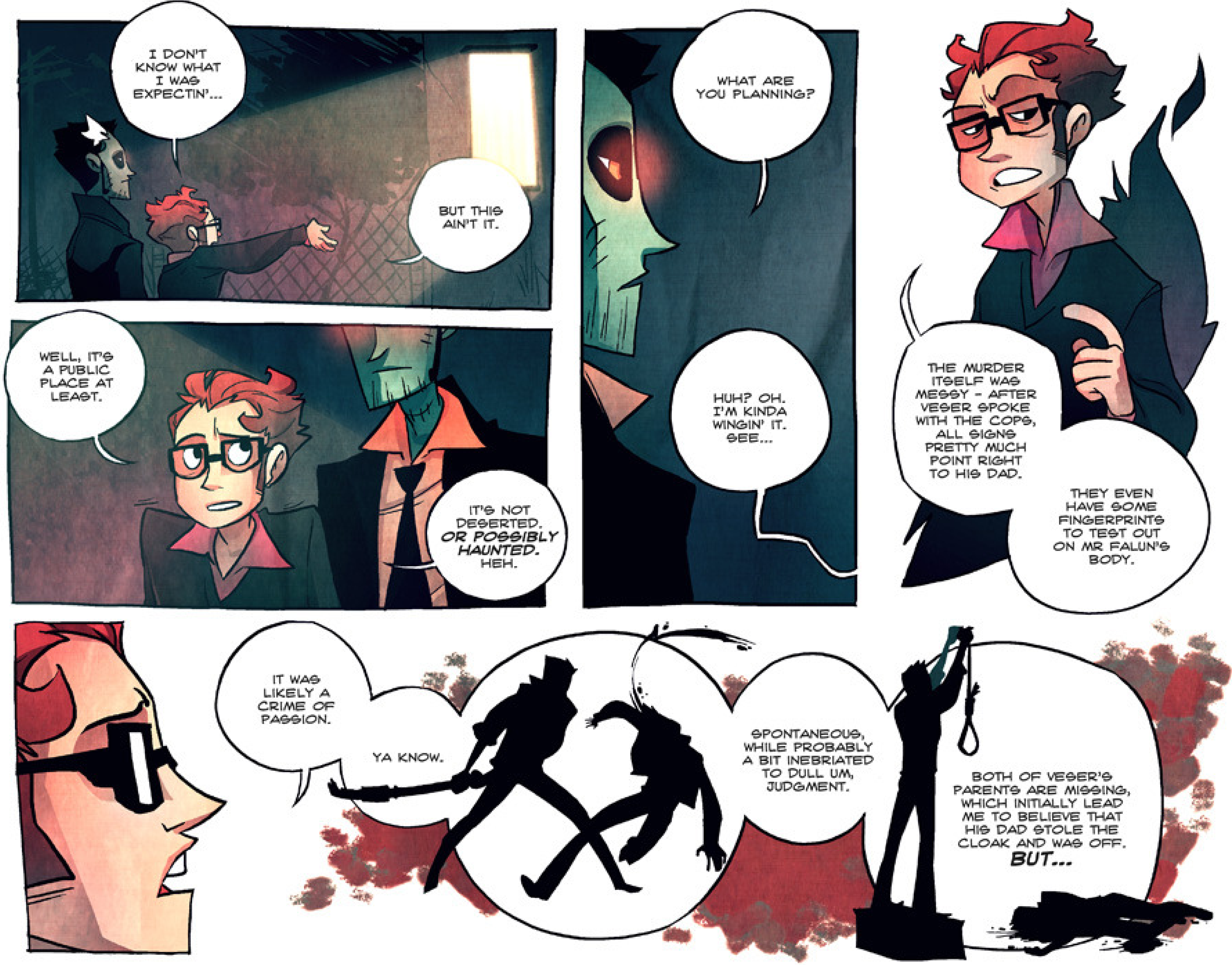

YOU'RE GONNA WHAT NOW? CAN'T HEAR YOU.
KILL YOU!
I'M GONNA KILL YOU.
MAN. YOU'RE CRABBY TODAY.
URGH, HANNA. I'LL HAPPILY SETCHA UP A LIL' PLOT O' LAND RIGHT NEXT TA LAMONT'S *DEAD BODY* IF YE DON'T GO AHEAD AND SHUT TH' HELL UP.
AN' WHERE'S THE REST OF YER DAMN UNDEAD ENTOURAGE?!
WHERE'S COUNT FAGULA?
OH!
HE'S LOOKIN' AFTER SOMEONE I ALMOST-BUT-MANAGED-NOT-TO-KILL WHEN I UH, *WELL.* HEH.
WHEN I DELIBERATELY DISOBEYED YOU AND WENT GHOST HUNTING.
AT LEAST HE'S HONEST.

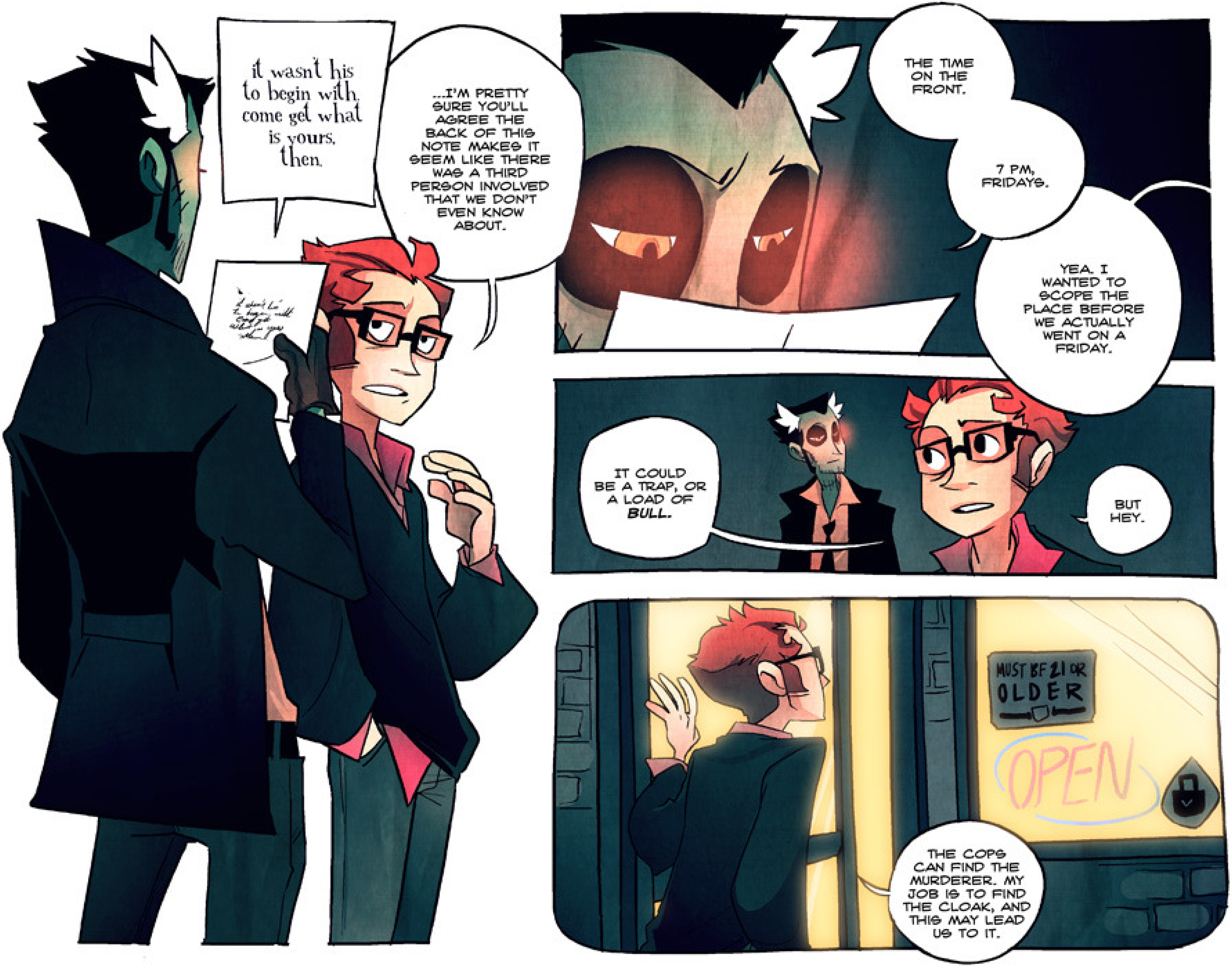

YA GOTTA BE KIDDIN'...
HAHA. MAYBE THEY CAN START A SUPPORT GROUP.
NNFF
GE'OFF MY DESK.
YOU LISTEN 'ERE. I-
OKAY, THAT'S ENOUGH.
HE DOESN'T REALLY NEED YOU SQUABBLIN' OVER HIM LIKE SOME SORT OF DERANGED MOTHER HEN.
GRK

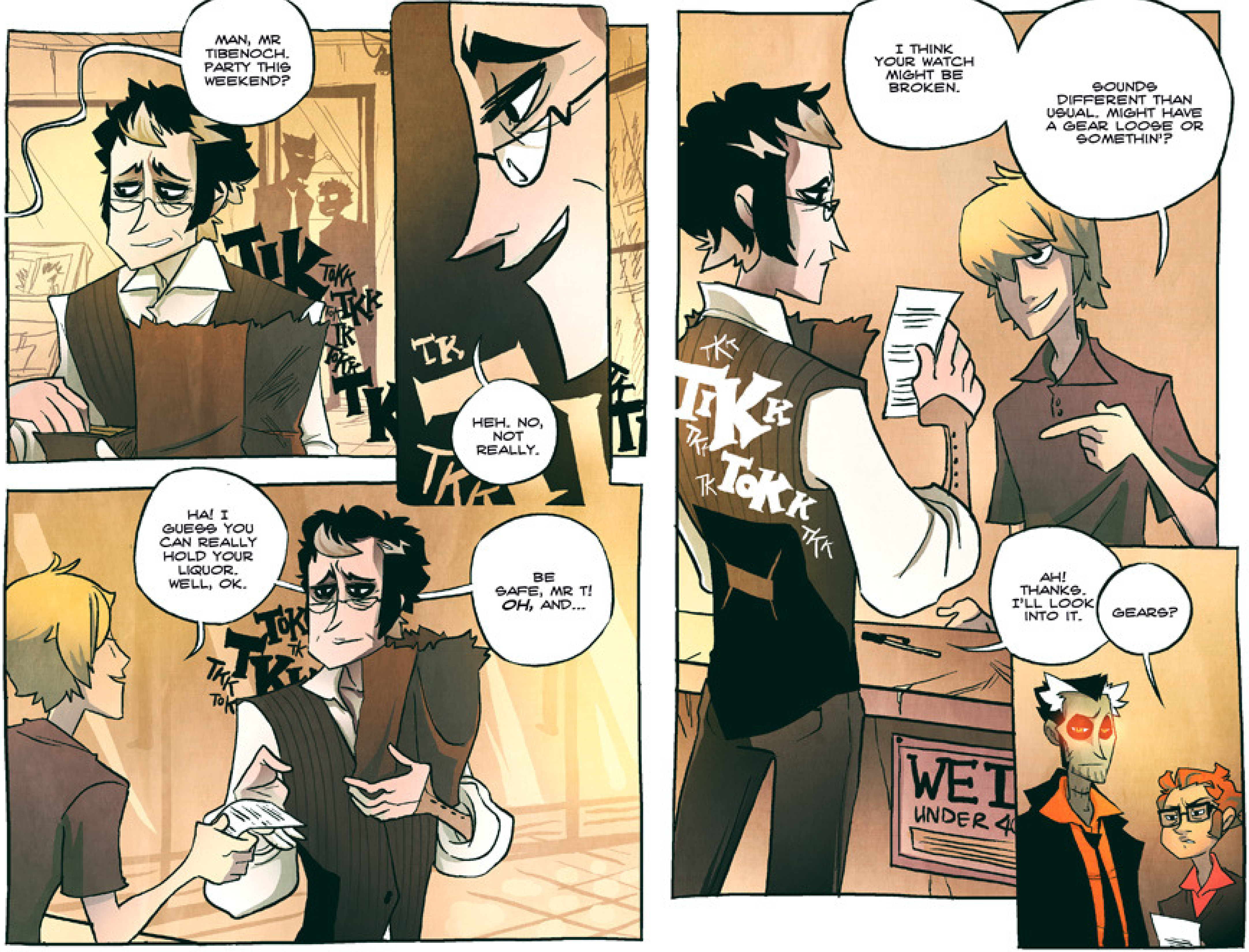

ERR, THANKS LAMONT. WE WERE GONNA GET ODIN CHECKED UP BUT
I CAN SEE YOU DON'T FEEL SO WELL, SO WE'LL DO THIS LATER.
PLEASE.
ACTUALLY, ONE MORE THING BEFORE WE GET OUT OF YOUR HAIR. I HAD A TINY QUESTION.
DOES THE NAME ADELAIDE MEAN ANYTHING TO ANYONE?
SHE'S A LESS-THAN-NICE VAMPIRE LADY.
...wHYYY?
AH, WELL SEE, SHE'S APPARENTLY A BIT OF A BITCH AND I MAY HAVE ACCIDENTALLY --
Heh HeHeH HEH.
WHAT ON EARTH IS THAT FACE FOR?
YOU ARE SO WEIRD SOME-TIMES.

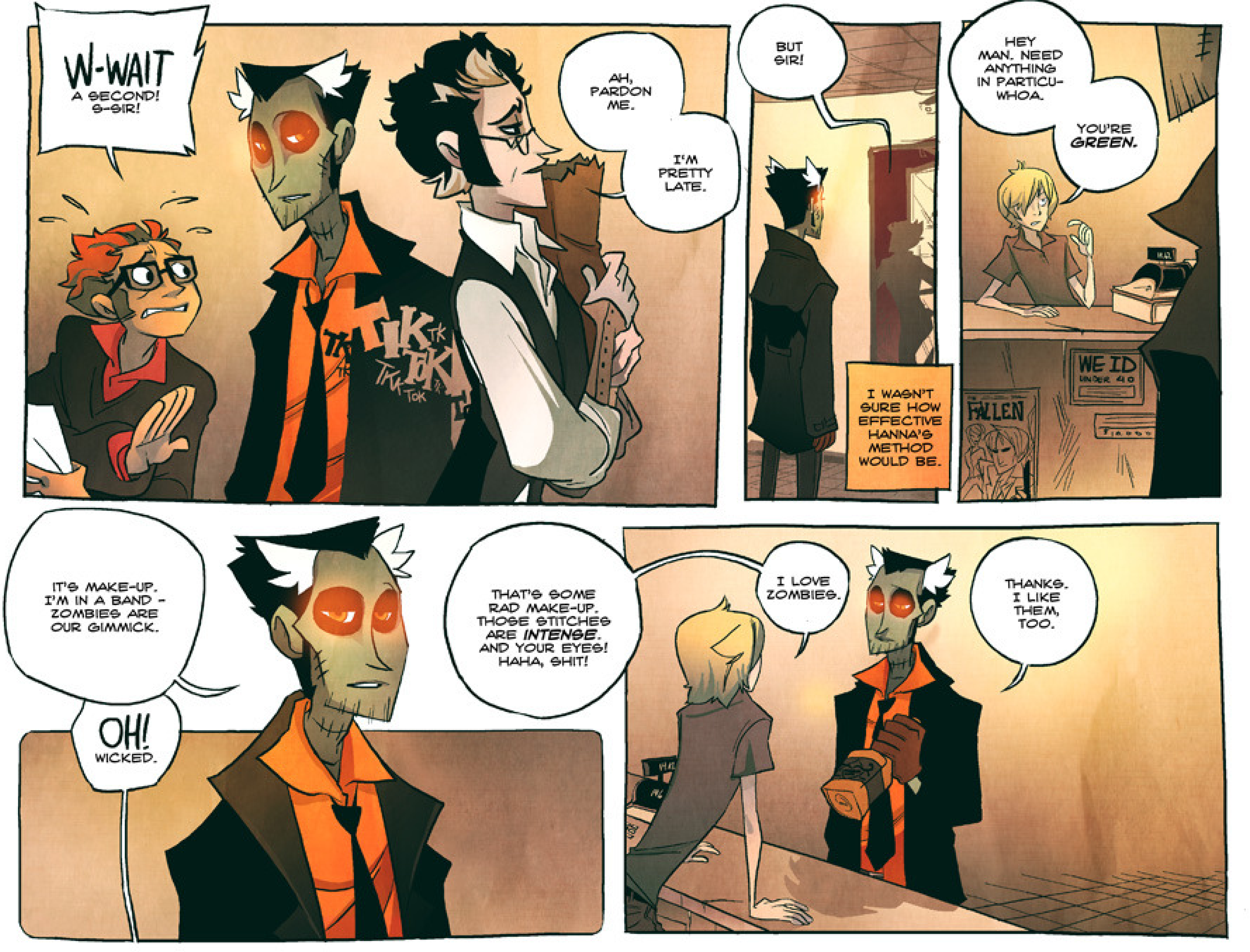

SHE USED TO BE A REGULAR CLIENT. AN EXTREMELY POWERFUL ONE. BUT...SHE'S BEEN MISSING FOR MONTHS.
CLIENT?
OOOOOOHKAY. GOOD TO...KNOW.
WHY?
NO REASON.
WHAT EXACTLY DOES MR. TOUCEY DO?
WELL, IF YER DONE. GET LOST.
I GOT WORK.
JEEZOK. SO CRABBY.
MAN. I HOPE CONNIE'S IN A BETTER MOOD.
UNLIKELY.

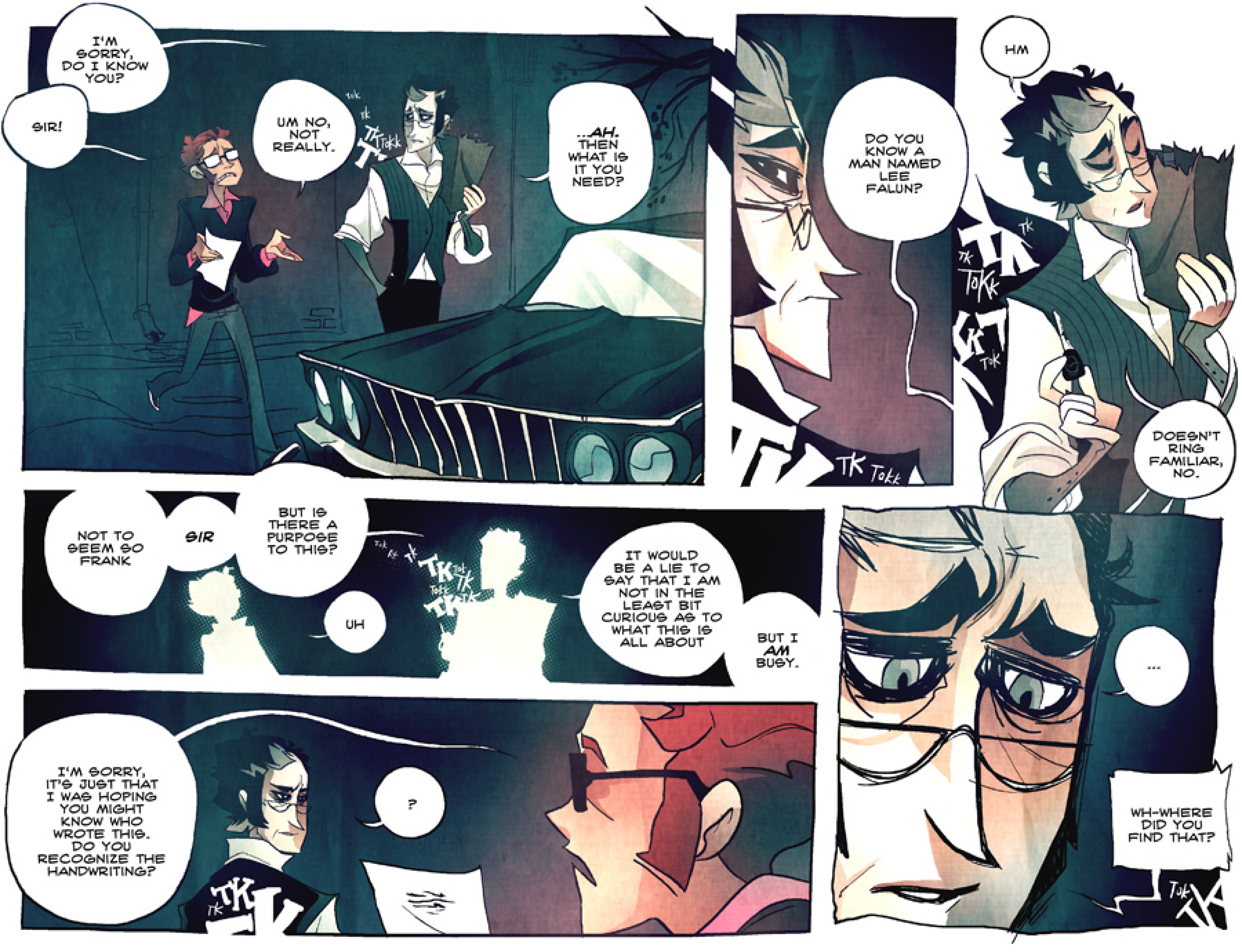

HEY. REAL QUICK BEFORE WE HIT UP CONRAD'S, I WANNA CHECK SOMETHIN'.
BRADFORD PKWY
18TH
WHAT IS THAT?
IT'S THIS NOTE THAT WAS IN THE ROOM OF THE HANGED MAN.
3172, 3174...
KINGS
PAWN
IT'S GOT AN ADDRESS AND SOME GEARS TAPED TO IT. KINDA WACKY TO ME.
3176...
3178.
ACE'S LIQUOR
WINE • BEER
A LIQUOR STORE?!
BUH-

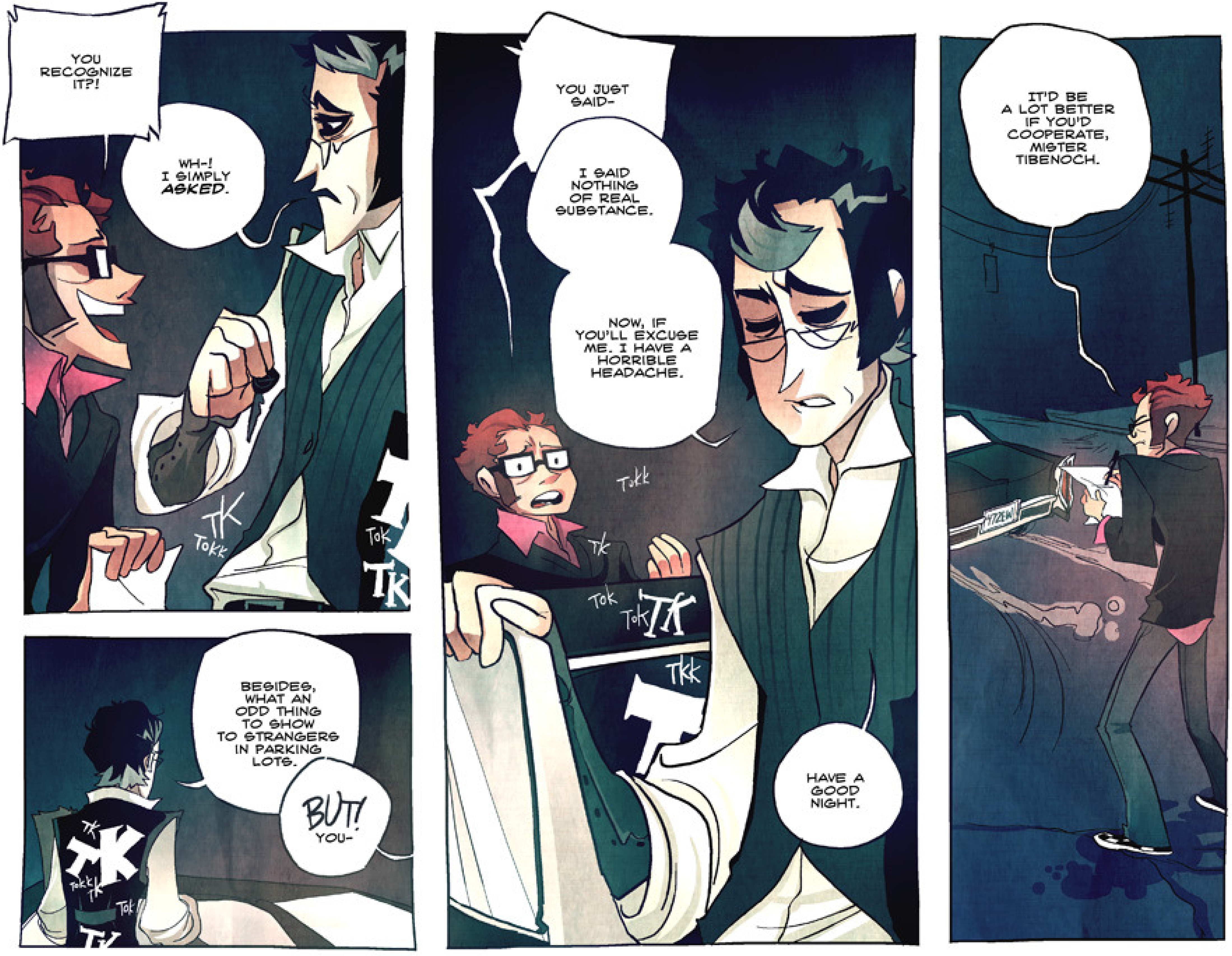

I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WAS EXPECTIN'...
BUT THIS AIN'T IT.
WELL, IT'S A PUBLIC PLACE AT LEAST.
IT'S NOT DESERTED. *OR POSSIBLY HAUNTED.* HEH.
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING?
HUH? OH. I'M KINDA WINGIN' IT. SEE...
THE MURDER ITSELF WAS MESSY - AFTER VESER SPOKE WITH THE COPS, ALL SIGNS PRETTY MUCH POINT RIGHT TO HIS DAD.
THEY EVEN HAVE SOME FINGERPRINTS TO TEST OUT ON MR FALUN'S BODY.
IT WAS LIKELY A CRIME OF PASSION.
YA KNOW.
SPONTANEOUS, WHILE PROBABLY A BIT INEBRIATED TO DULL UM, JUDGMENT.
BOTH OF VESER'S PARENTS ARE MISSING, WHICH INITIALLY LEAD ME TO BELIEVE THAT HIS DAD STOLE THE CLOAK AND WAS OFF. **BUT...**

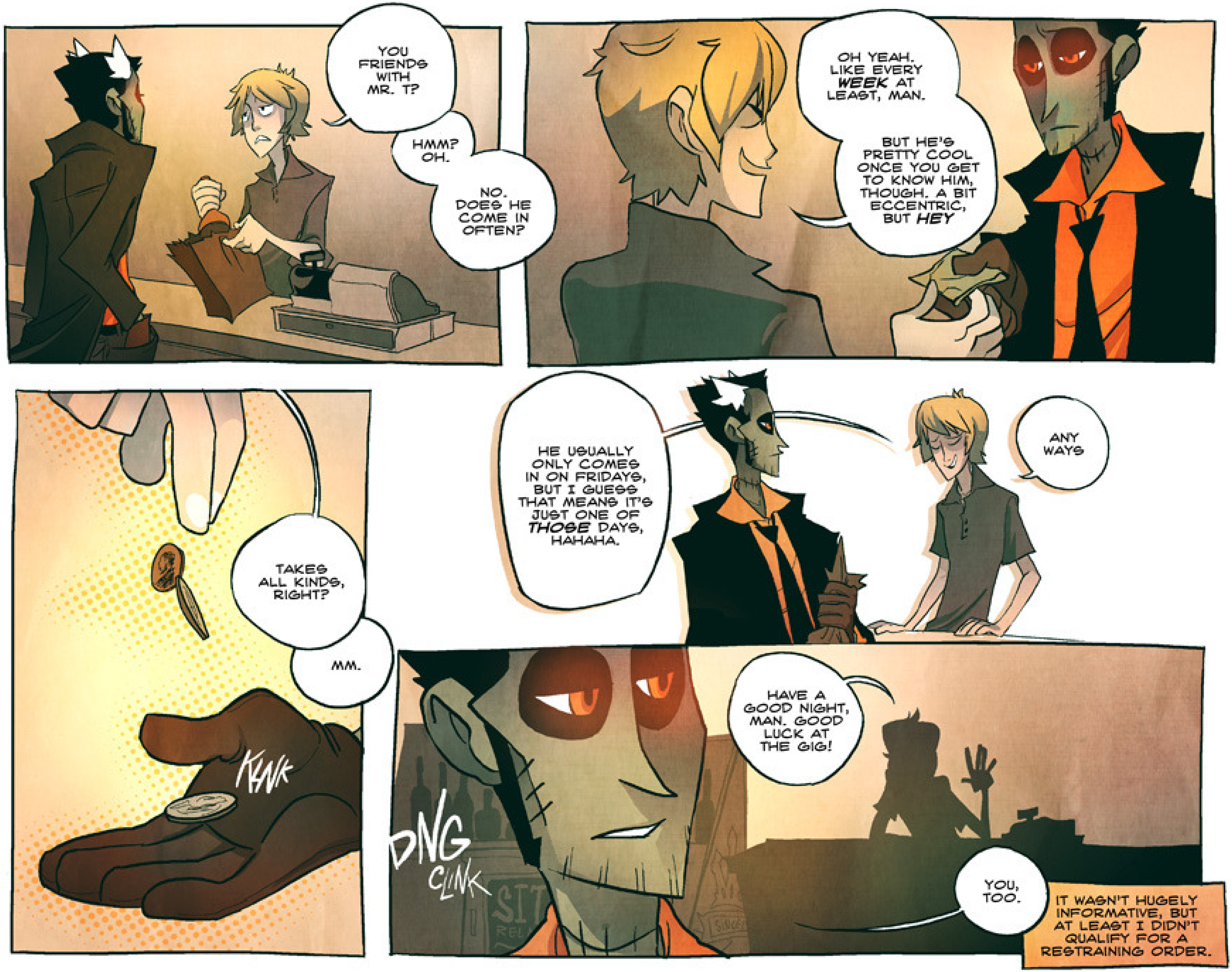

it wasn't his to begin with. come get what is yours, then.
...I'M PRETTY SURE YOU'LL AGREE THE BACK OF THIS NOTE MAKES IT SEEM LIKE THERE WAS A THIRD PERSON INVOLVED THAT WE DON'T EVEN KNOW ABOUT.
THE TIME ON THE FRONT.
7 PM, FRIDAYS.
YEA. I WANTED TO SCOPE THE PLACE BEFORE WE ACTUALLY WENT ON A FRIDAY.
IT COULD BE A TRAP, OR A LOAD OF **BULL.**
BUT HEY.
MUST BE 21 OR OLDER
OPEN
THE COPS CAN FIND THE MURDERER. MY JOB IS TO FIND THE CLOAK, AND THIS MAY LEAD US TO IT.

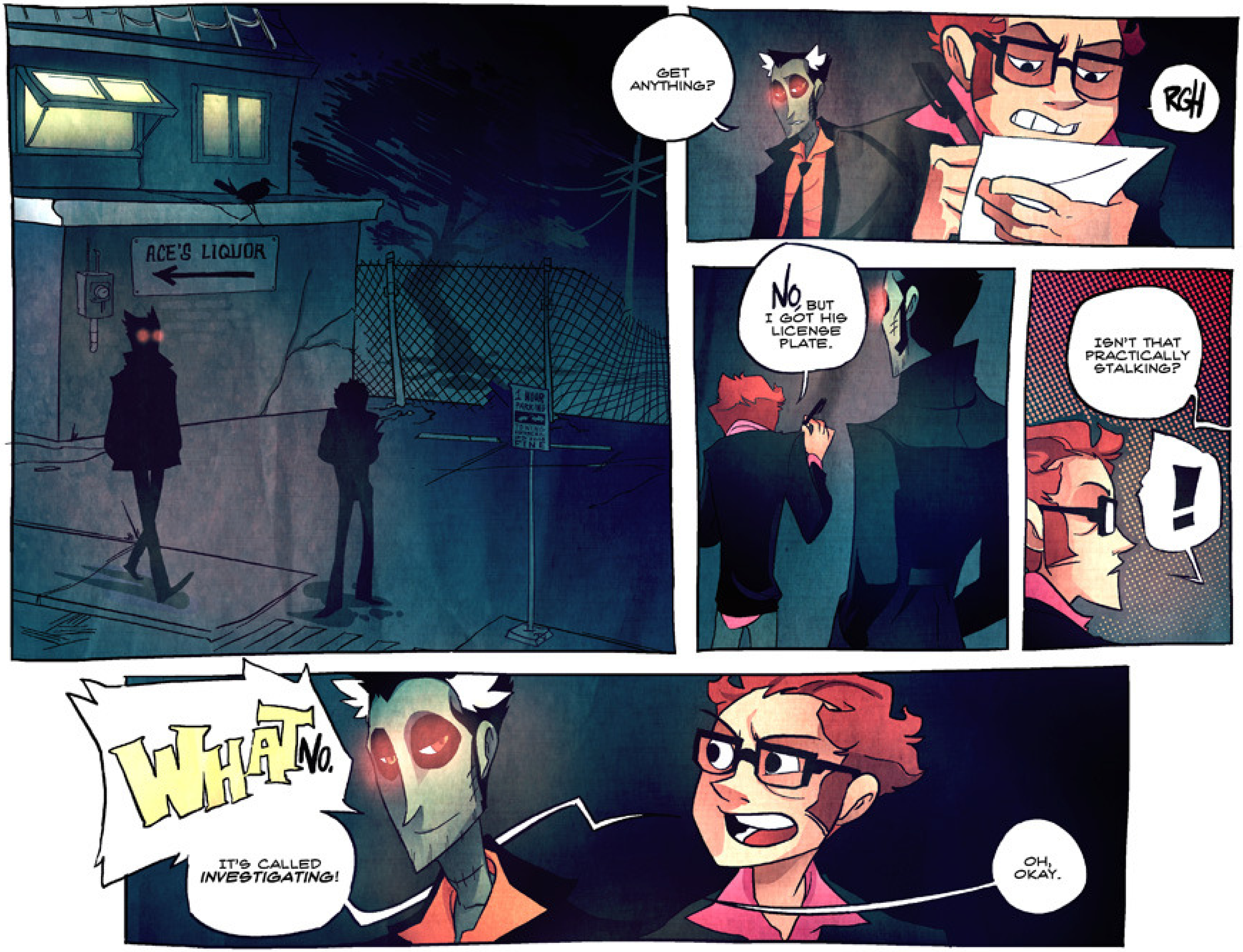

MAN, MR TIBENOCH. PARTY THIS WEEKEND?
TIK TOKK TKK TK TK TOKK TK
TK
HEH. NO, NOT REALLY.
TKK
HA! I GUESS YOU CAN REALLY HOLD YOUR LIQUOR. WELL, OK.
TOKK TK TKK TKK TOK
BE SAFE, MR T! *OH*, AND...
I THINK YOUR WATCH MIGHT BE BROKEN.
SOUNDS DIFFERENT THAN USUAL. MIGHT HAVE A GEAR LOOSE OR SOMETHIN'?
TKK TIKK TKK TK TOKK TKK
AH! THANKS. I'LL LOOK INTO IT.
GEARS?
WEI
UNDER 4

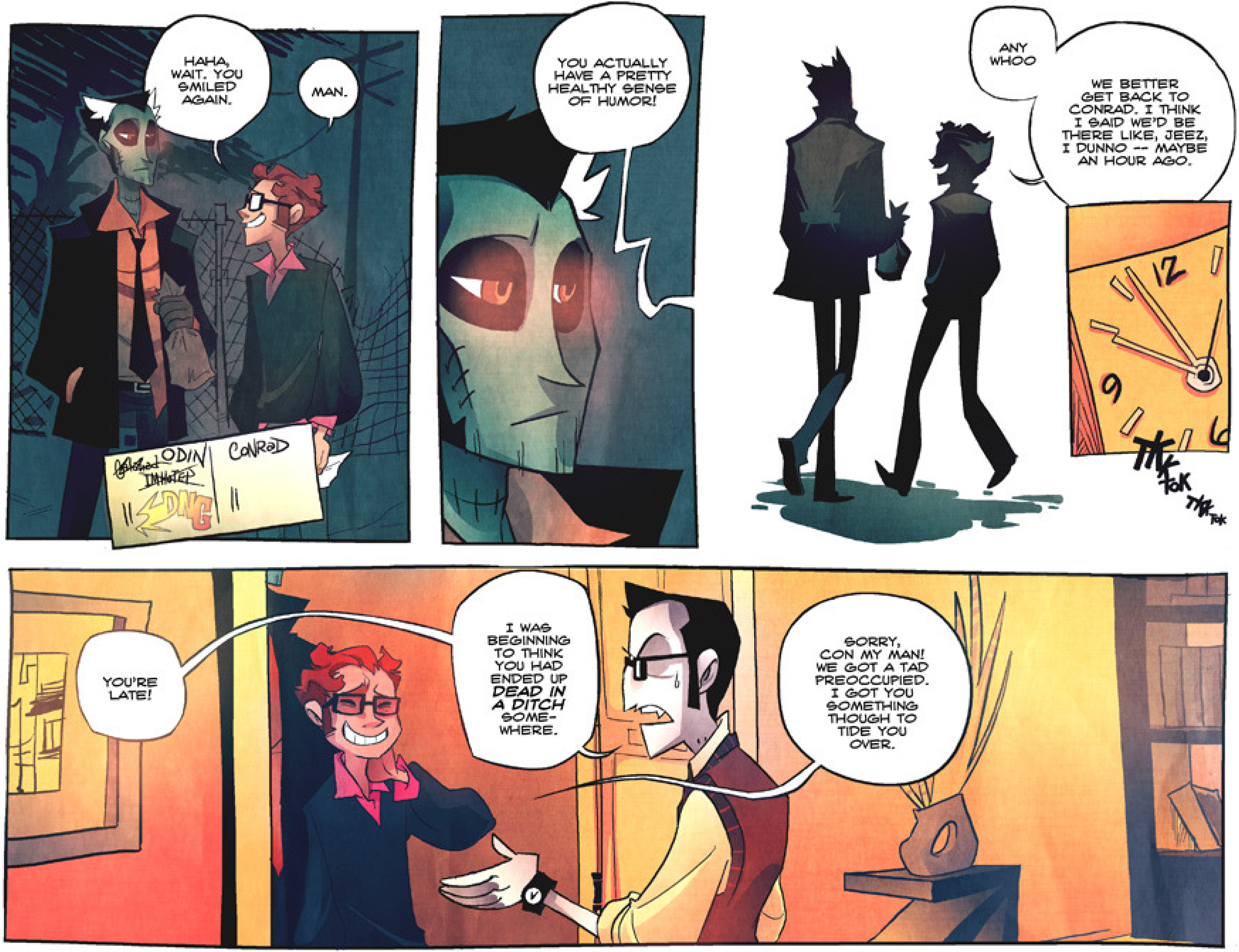

W-WAIT A SECOND! S-SIR!
TIK TOK
AH, PARDON ME.
I'M PRETTY LATE.
BUT SIR!
I WASN'T SURE HOW EFFECTIVE HANNA'S METHOD WOULD BE.
HEY MAN. NEED ANYTHING IN PARTICU- WHOA.
YOU'RE *GREEN.*
WE ID UNDER 40
FALLEN
IT'S MAKE-UP. I'M IN A BAND - ZOMBIES ARE OUR GIMMICK.
OH! WICKED.
THAT'S SOME RAD MAKE-UP. THOSE STITCHES ARE *INTENSE.* AND YOUR EYES! HAHA, SHIT!
I LOVE ZOMBIES.
THANKS. I LIKE THEM, TOO.

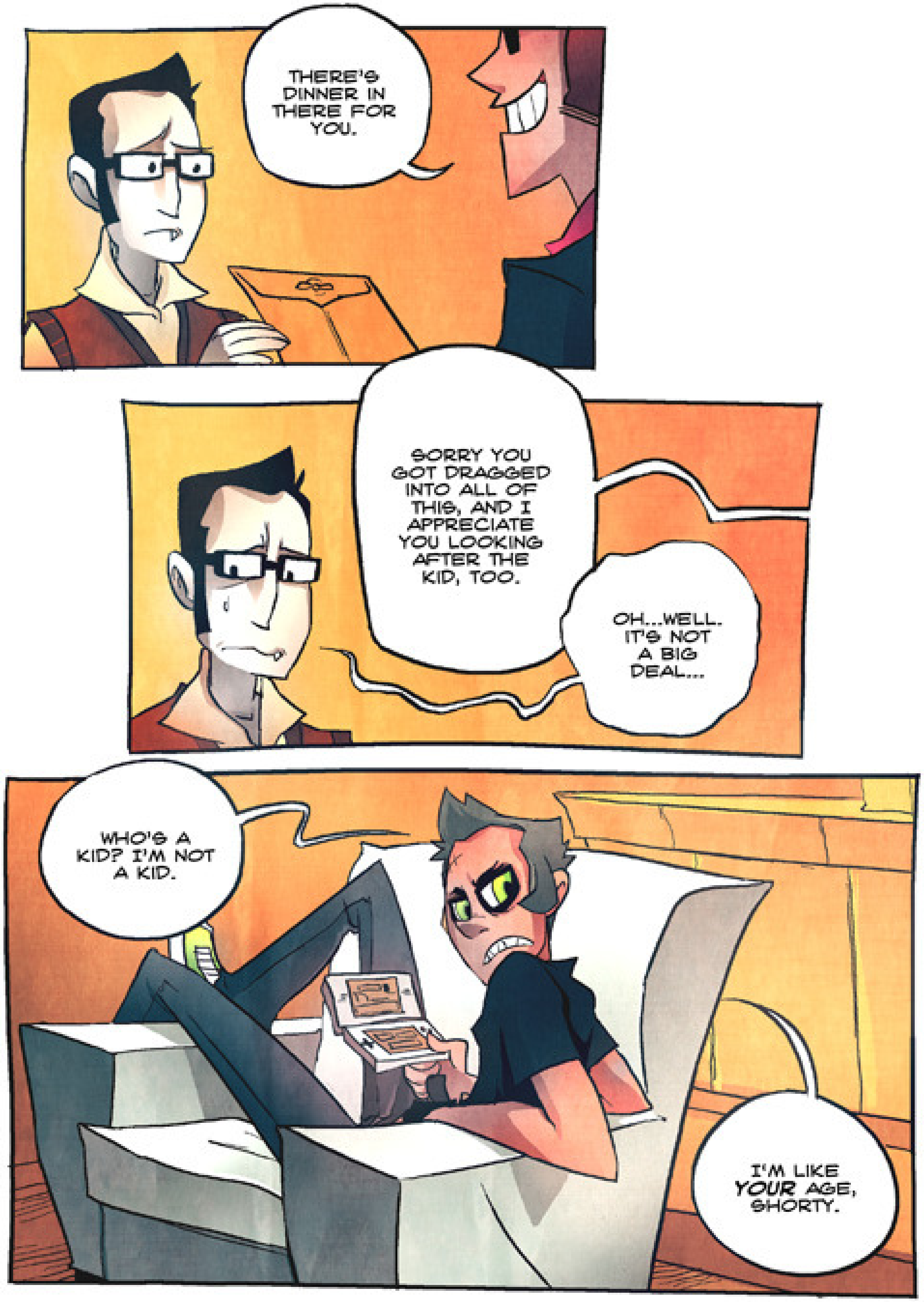

I'M SORRY, DO I KNOW YOU?
SIR!
UM NO, NOT REALLY.
TK TOKK
...AH. THEN WHAT IS IT YOU NEED?
DO YOU KNOW A MAN NAMED LEE FALUN?
TK TOKK
HM
TK TOKK
DOESN'T RING FAMILIAR, NO.
NOT TO SEEM SO FRANK
SIR
BUT IS THERE A PURPOSE TO THIS?
UH
TK TOKK
IT WOULD BE A LIE TO SAY THAT I AM NOT IN THE LEAST BIT CURIOUS AS TO WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT
BUT I *AM* BUSY.
I'M SORRY, IT'S JUST THAT I WAS HOPING YOU MIGHT KNOW WHO WROTE THIS. DO YOU RECOGNIZE THE HANDWRITING?
?
TK
...
WH-WHERE DID YOU FIND THAT?
TOK TK

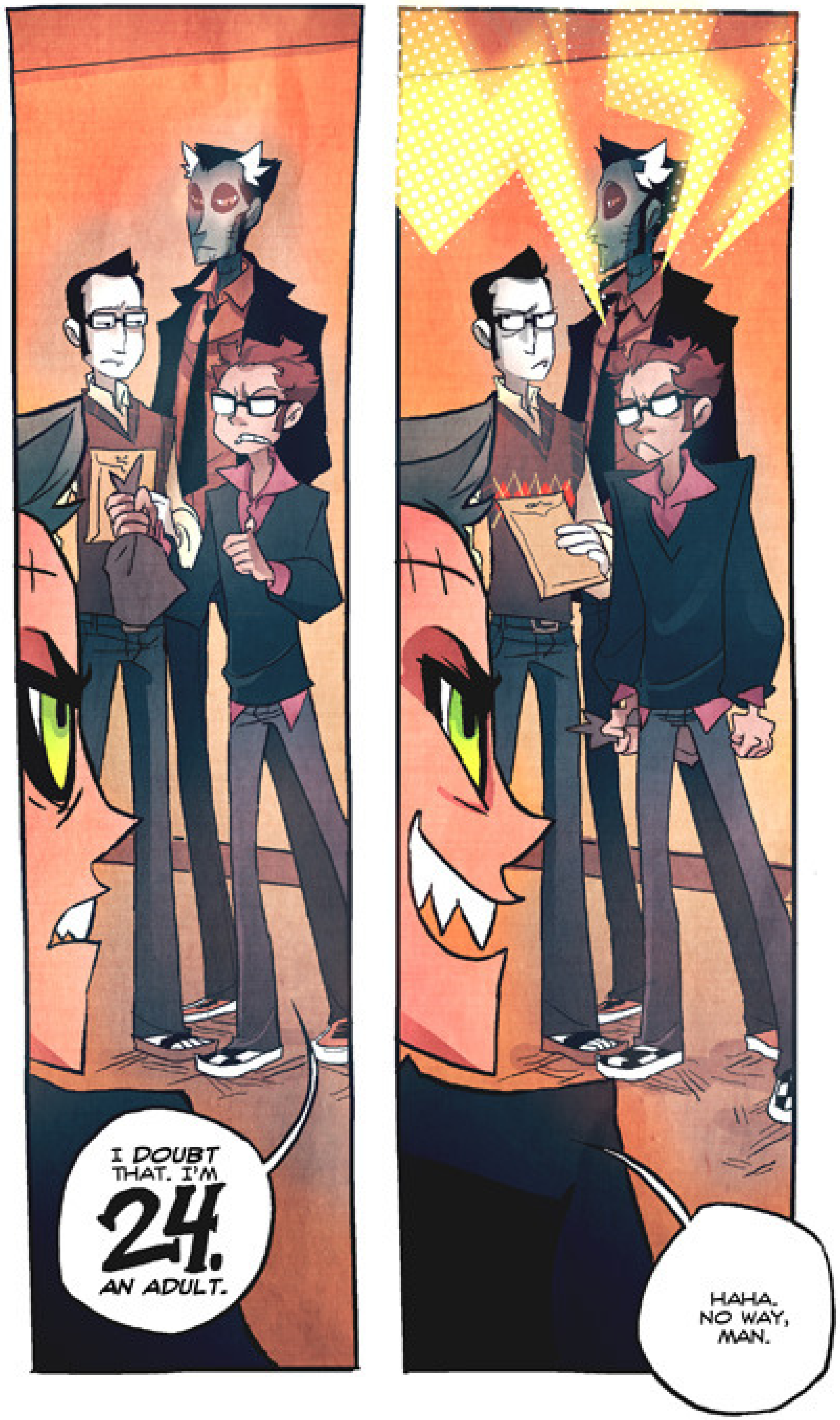

YOU RECOGNIZE IT?!
WH-! I SIMPLY *ASKED*.
TK
TOKK
TOK
TK
BESIDES, WHAT AN ODD THING TO SHOW TO STRANGERS IN PARKING LOTS.
BUT! YOU-
TK
TOKK TK
TOK
TK
YOU JUST SAID-
I SAID NOTHING OF REAL SUBSTANCE.
NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME. I HAVE A HORRIBLE HEADACHE.
TOKK
TK
TOK
TOK TK
TKK
HAVE A GOOD NIGHT.
IT'D BE A LOT BETTER IF YOU'D COOPERATE, MISTER TIBENOCH.

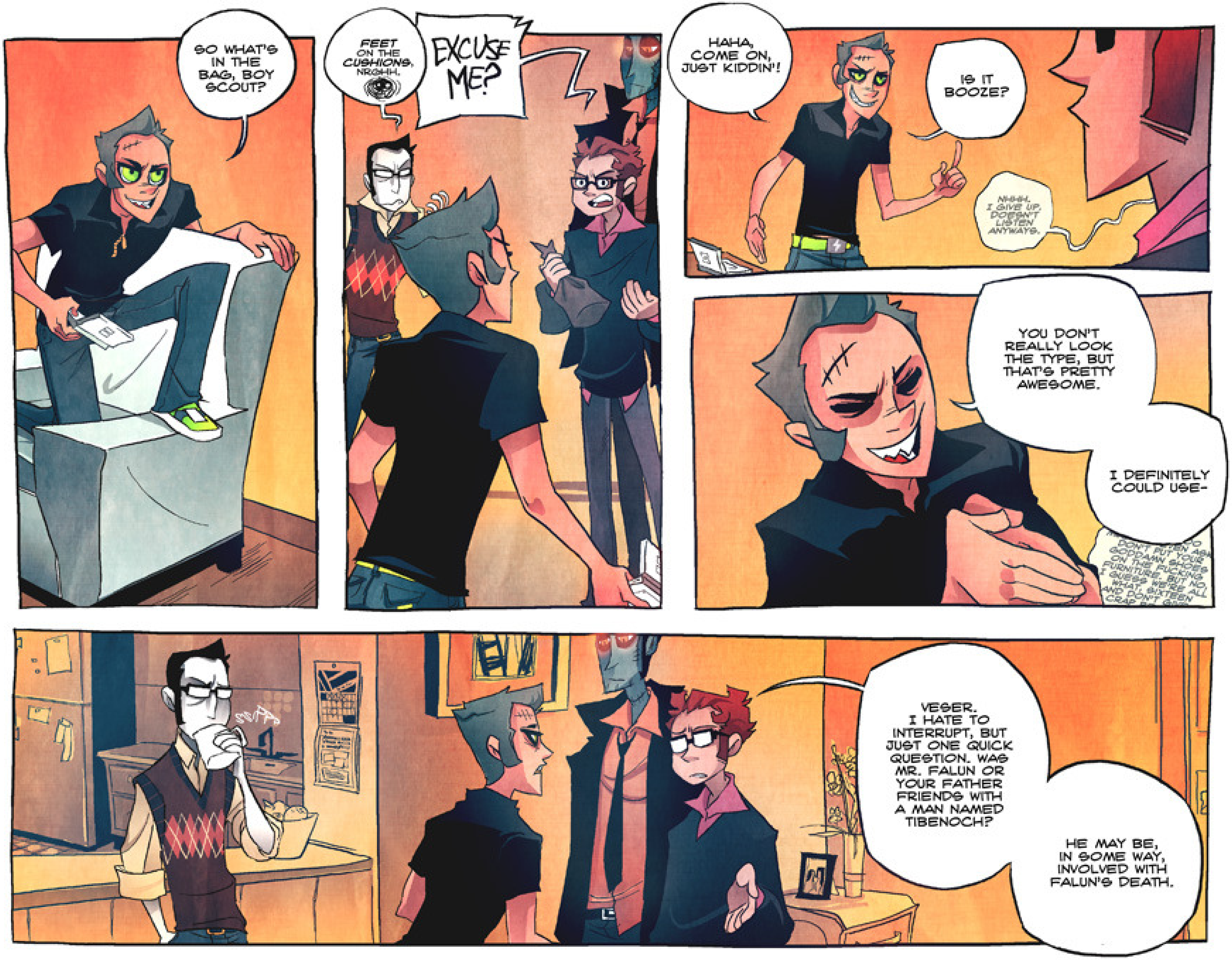

YOU FRIENDS WITH MR. T?
HMM? OH.
NO. DOES HE COME IN OFTEN?
OH YEAH. LIKE EVERY *WEEK* AT LEAST, MAN.
BUT HE'S PRETTY COOL ONCE YOU GET TO KNOW HIM, THOUGH. A BIT ECCENTRIC, BUT *HEY*
TAKES ALL KINDS, RIGHT?
MM.
KLINK
HE USUALLY ONLY COMES IN ON FRIDAYS, BUT I GUESS THAT MEANS IT'S JUST ONE OF *THOSE* DAYS, HAHAHA.
ANY WAYS
DNG
CLINK
HAVE A GOOD NIGHT, MAN. GOOD LUCK AT THE GIG!
YOU, TOO.
IT WASN'T HUGELY INFORMATIVE, BUT AT LEAST I DIDN'T QUALIFY FOR A RESTRAINING ORDER.

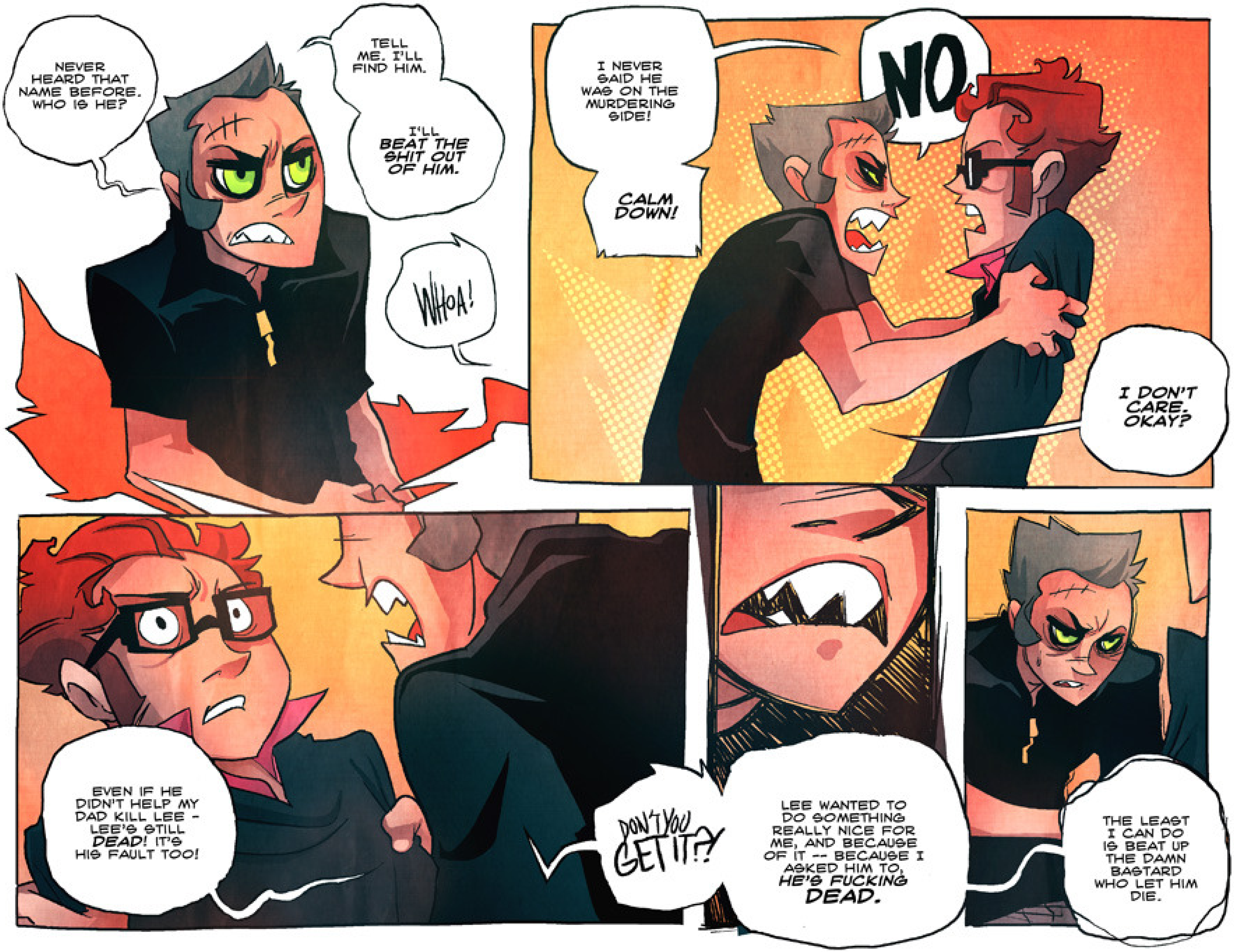

ACE'S LIQUOR
GET ANYTHING?
RGH
NO, BUT I GOT HIS LICENSE PLATE.
ISN'T THAT PRACTICALLY STALKING?
!
WHAT NO.
IT'S CALLED *INVESTIGATING!*
OH, OKAY.

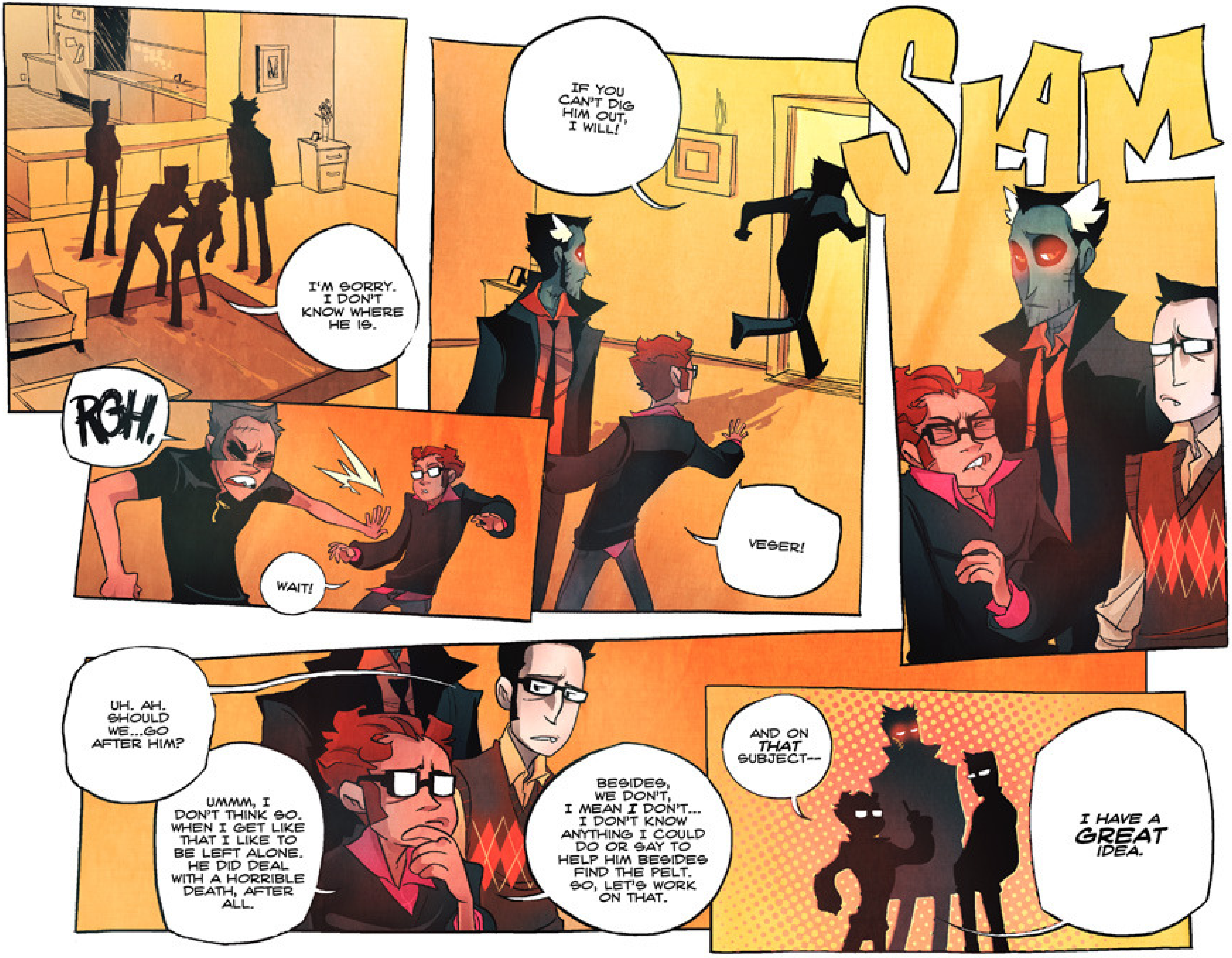

HAHA, WAIT. YOU SMILED AGAIN.
MAN.
ODIN ~~IMHOTEP~~ || DNG
CONRAD ||
YOU ACTUALLY HAVE A PRETTY HEALTHY SENSE OF HUMOR!
ANY WHOO
WE BETTER GET BACK TO CONRAD. I THINK I SAID WE'D BE THERE LIKE, JEEZ, I DUNNO -- MAYBE AN HOUR AGO.
12
9
TIK TOK TIK TOK
YOU'RE LATE!
I WAS BEGINNING TO THINK YOU HAD ENDED UP ***DEAD IN A DITCH*** SOMEWHERE.
SORRY, CON MY MAN! WE GOT A TAD PREOCCUPIED. I GOT YOU SOMETHING THOUGH TO TIDE YOU OVER.

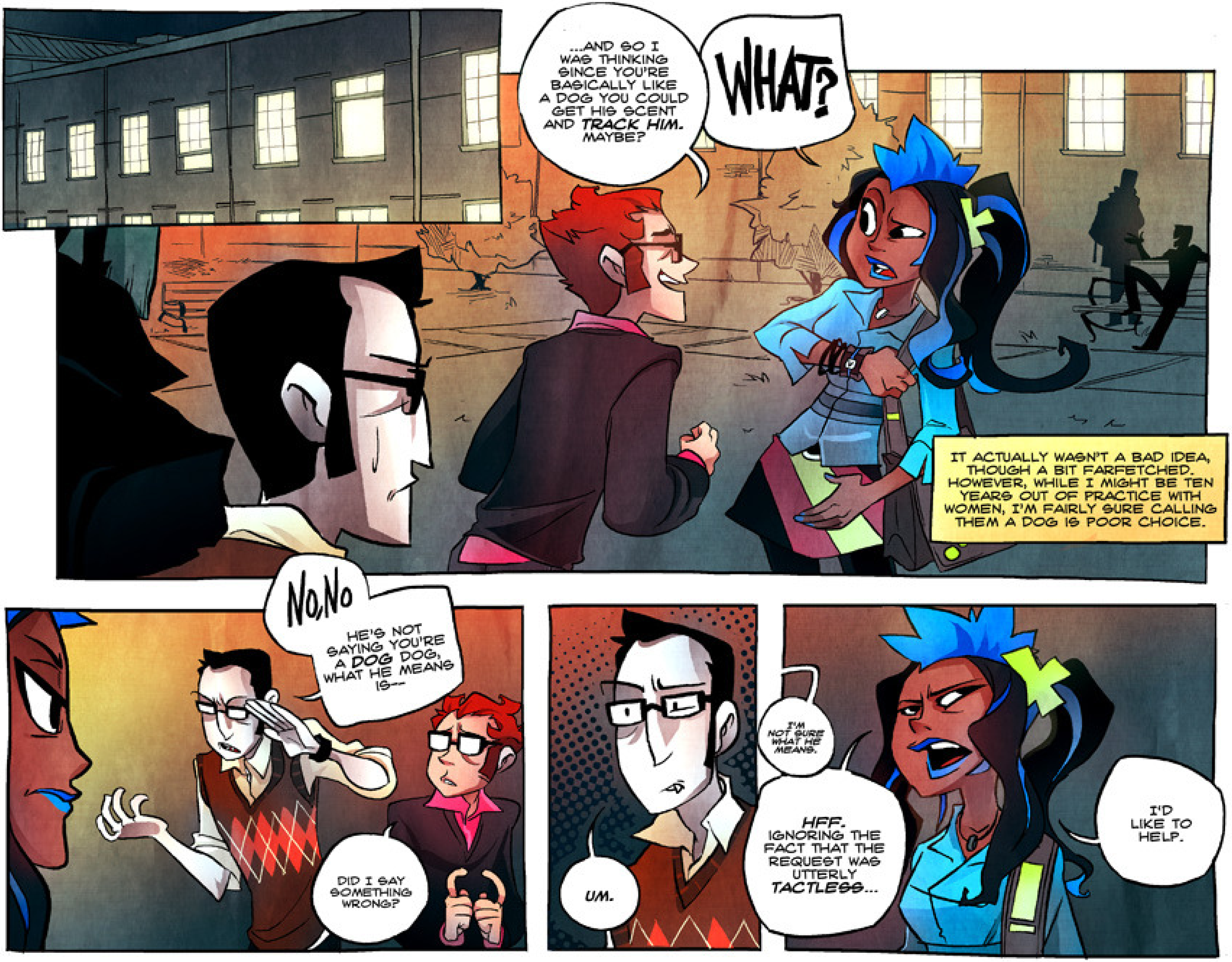

THERE'S DINNER IN THERE FOR YOU.
SORRY YOU GOT DRAGGED INTO ALL OF THIS, AND I APPRECIATE YOU LOOKING AFTER THE KID, TOO.
OH...WELL. IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL...
WHO'S A KID? I'M NOT A KID.
I'M LIKE *YOUR* AGE, SHORTY.

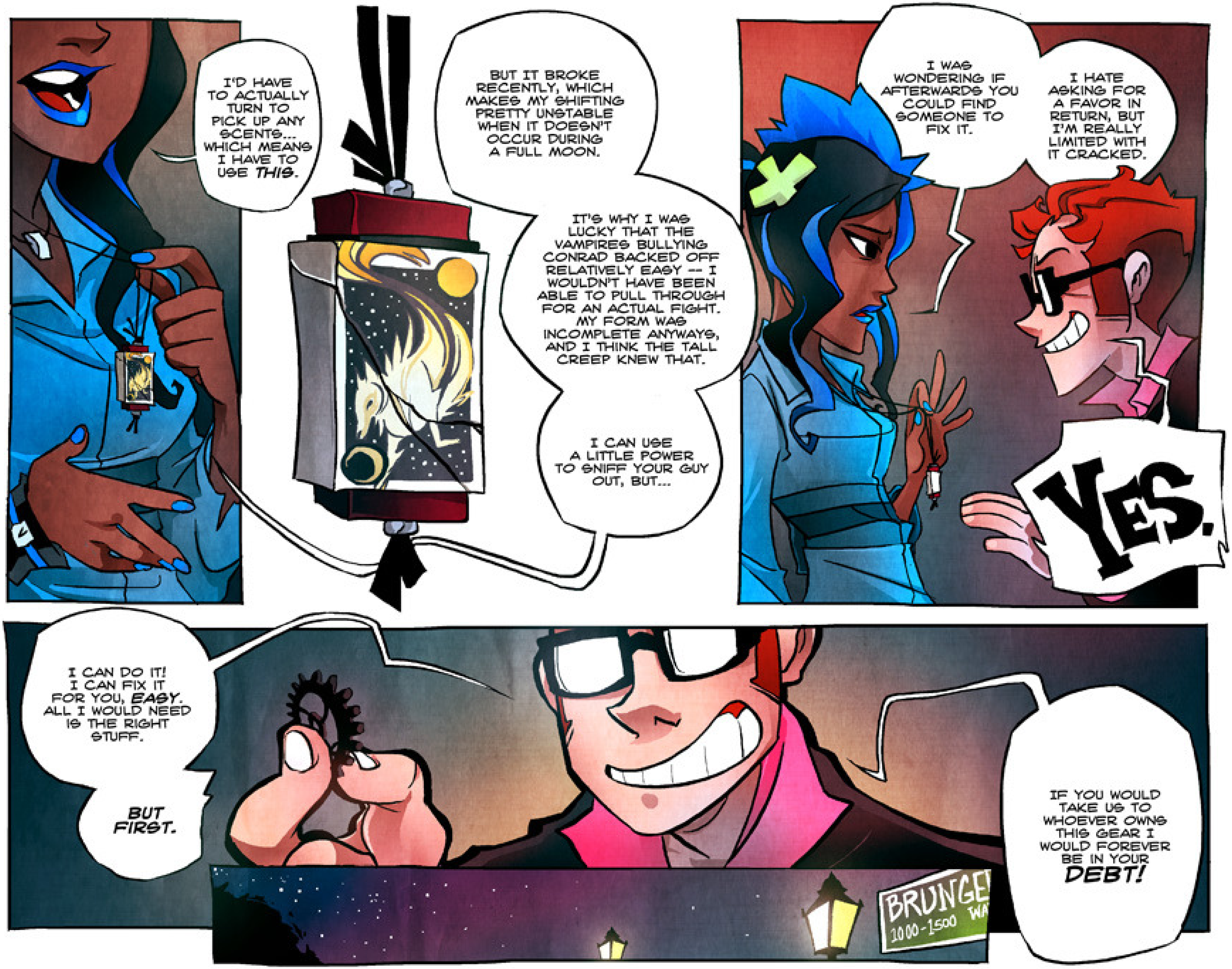

I *DOUBT* THAT. I'M 24. *AN ADULT.*
HAHA. NO WAY, MAN.

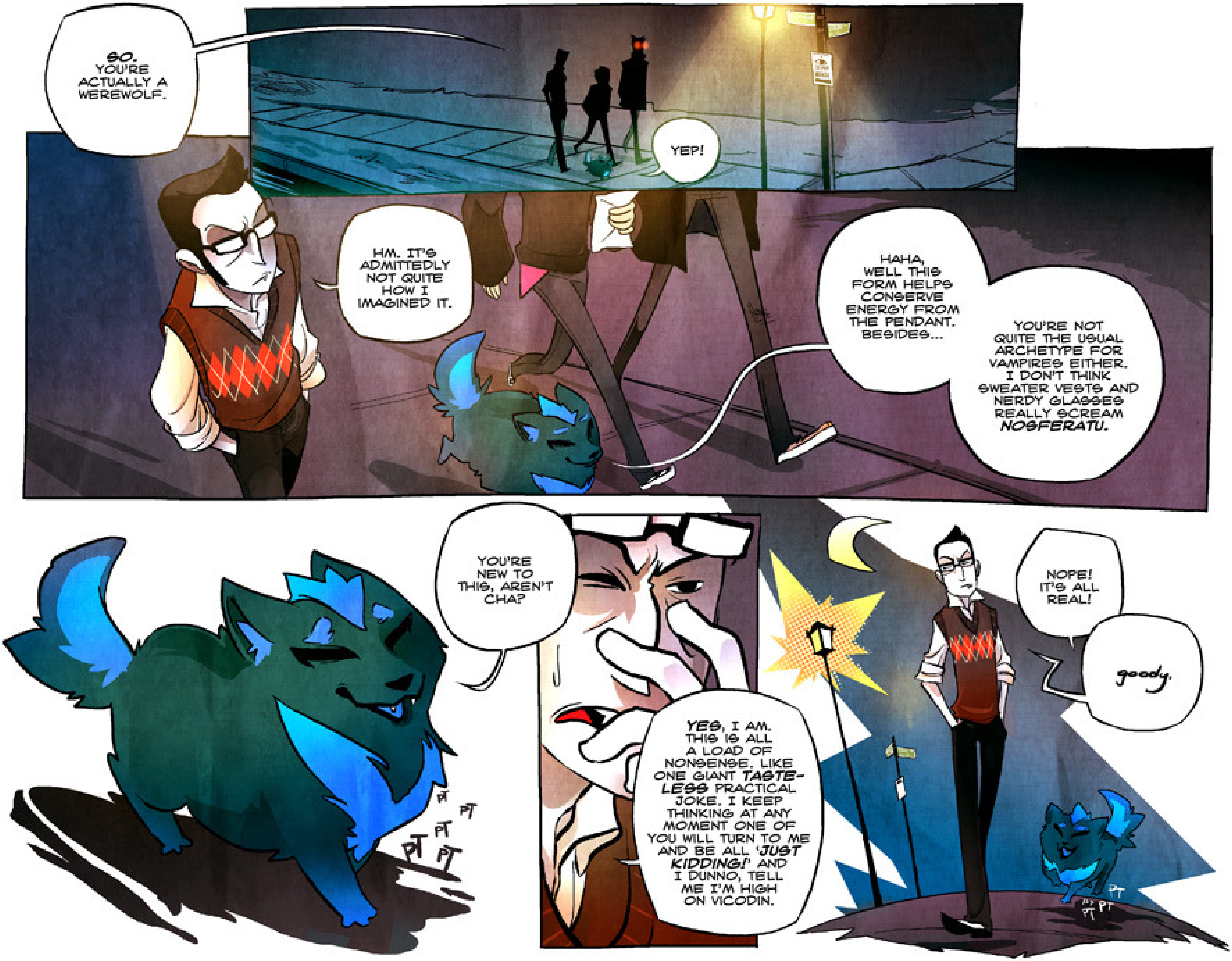

SO WHAT'S IN THE BAG, BOY SCOUT?
FEET ON THE CUSHIONS. NRGHH.
EXCUSE ME?
HAHA, COME ON, JUST KIDDIN'!
IS IT BOOZE?
NHHH. I GIVE UP. DOESN'T LISTEN ANYWAYS.
YOU DON'T REALLY LOOK THE TYPE, BUT THAT'S PRETTY AWESOME.
I DEFINITELY COULD USE-
DON'T EVEN ASK TO GODDAMN PUT YOUR SHOES ON THE FUCKING FURNITURE, BUT NO, I GUESS WE'RE ALL WHAT, SIXTEEN AND DON'T CRAP
VESER. I HATE TO INTERRUPT, BUT JUST ONE QUICK QUESTION. WAS MR. FALUN OR YOUR FATHER FRIENDS WITH A MAN NAMED TIBENOCH?
HE MAY BE, IN SOME WAY, INVOLVED WITH FALUN'S DEATH.

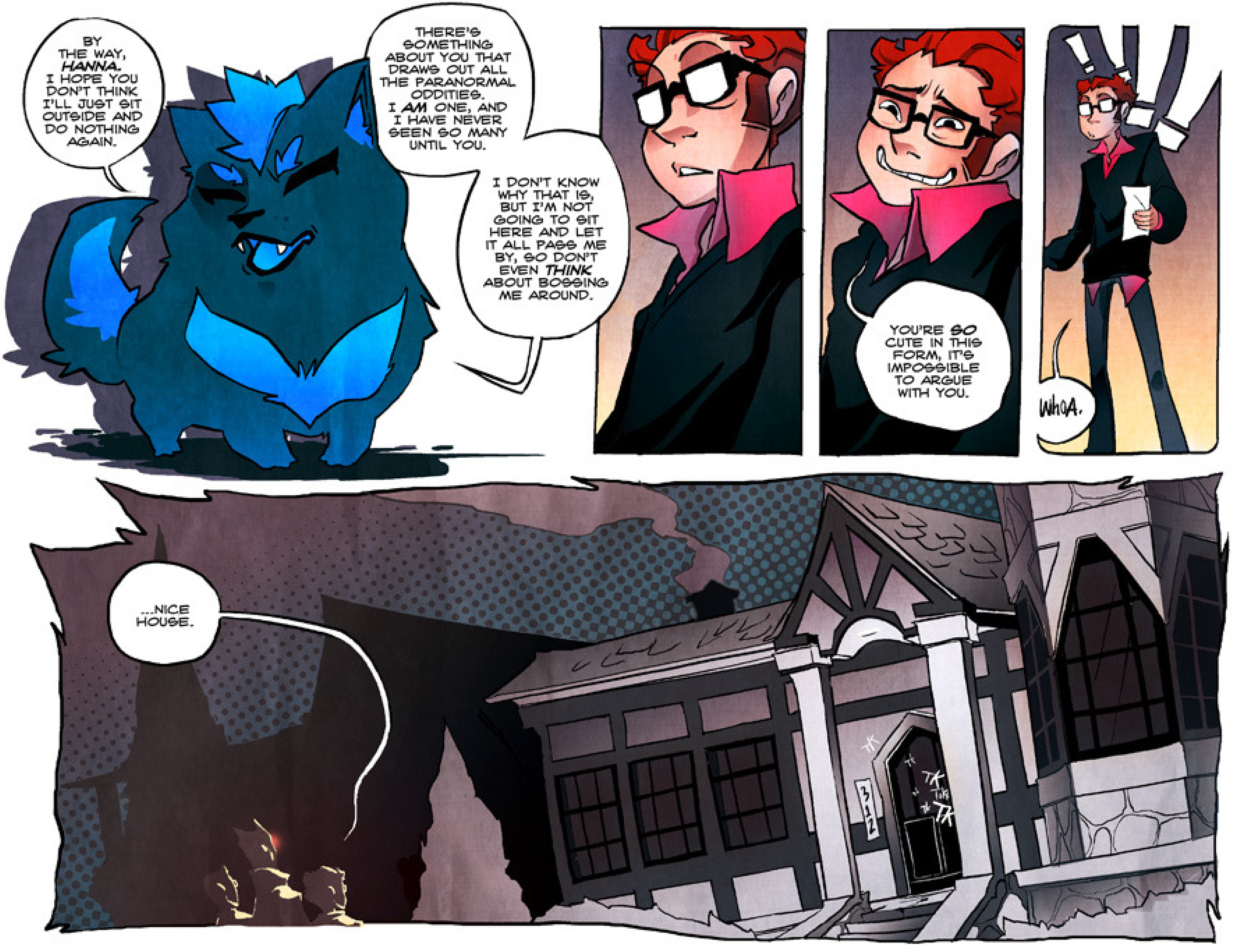

NEVER HEARD THAT NAME BEFORE. WHO IS HE?
TELL ME. I'LL FIND HIM.
I'LL *BEAT THE SHIT OUT OF HIM.*
WHOA!
I NEVER SAID HE WAS ON THE MURDERING SIDE!
CALM DOWN!
NO
I DON'T CARE. OKAY?
EVEN IF HE DIDN'T HELP MY DAD KILL LEE - LEE'S STILL *DEAD!* IT'S HIS FAULT TOO!
DON'T YOU GET IT?!
LEE WANTED TO DO SOMETHING REALLY NICE FOR ME, AND BECAUSE OF IT -- BECAUSE I ASKED HIM TO, ***HE'S FUCKING DEAD.***
THE LEAST I CAN DO IS BEAT UP THE DAMN BASTARD WHO LET HIM DIE.

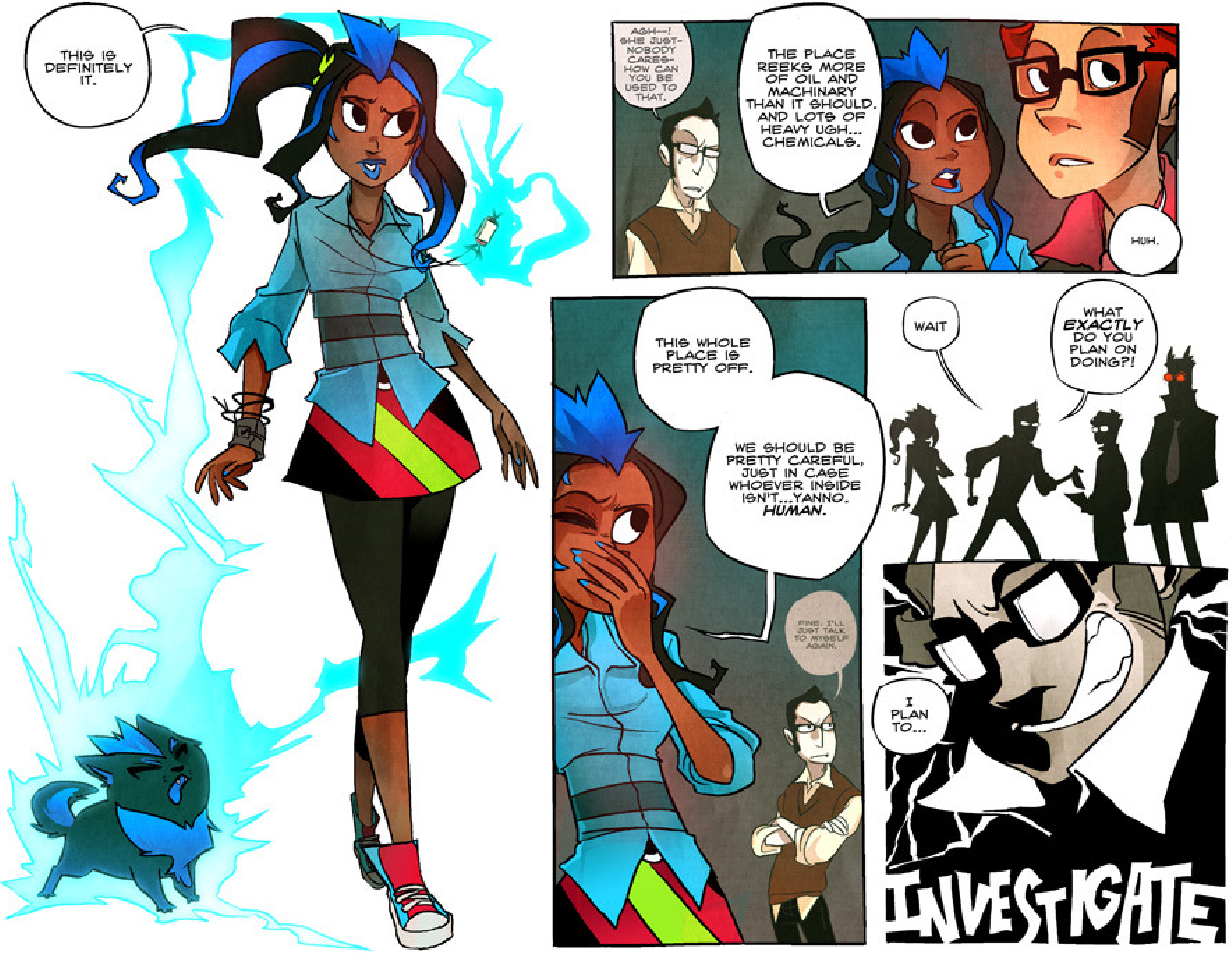

I'M SORRY. I DON'T KNOW WHERE HE IS.
RGH.
WAIT!
IF YOU CAN'T DIG HIM OUT, I WILL!
VESER!
SLAM
UH. AH. SHOULD WE...GO AFTER HIM?
UMMM, I DON'T THINK SO. WHEN I GET LIKE THAT I LIKE TO BE LEFT ALONE. HE DID DEAL WITH A HORRIBLE DEATH, AFTER ALL.
BESIDES, WE DON'T, I MEAN *I* DON'T... I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING I COULD DO OR SAY TO HELP HIM BESIDES FIND THE PELT. SO, LET'S WORK ON THAT.
AND ON *THAT* SUBJECT--
I HAVE A **GREAT** IDEA.

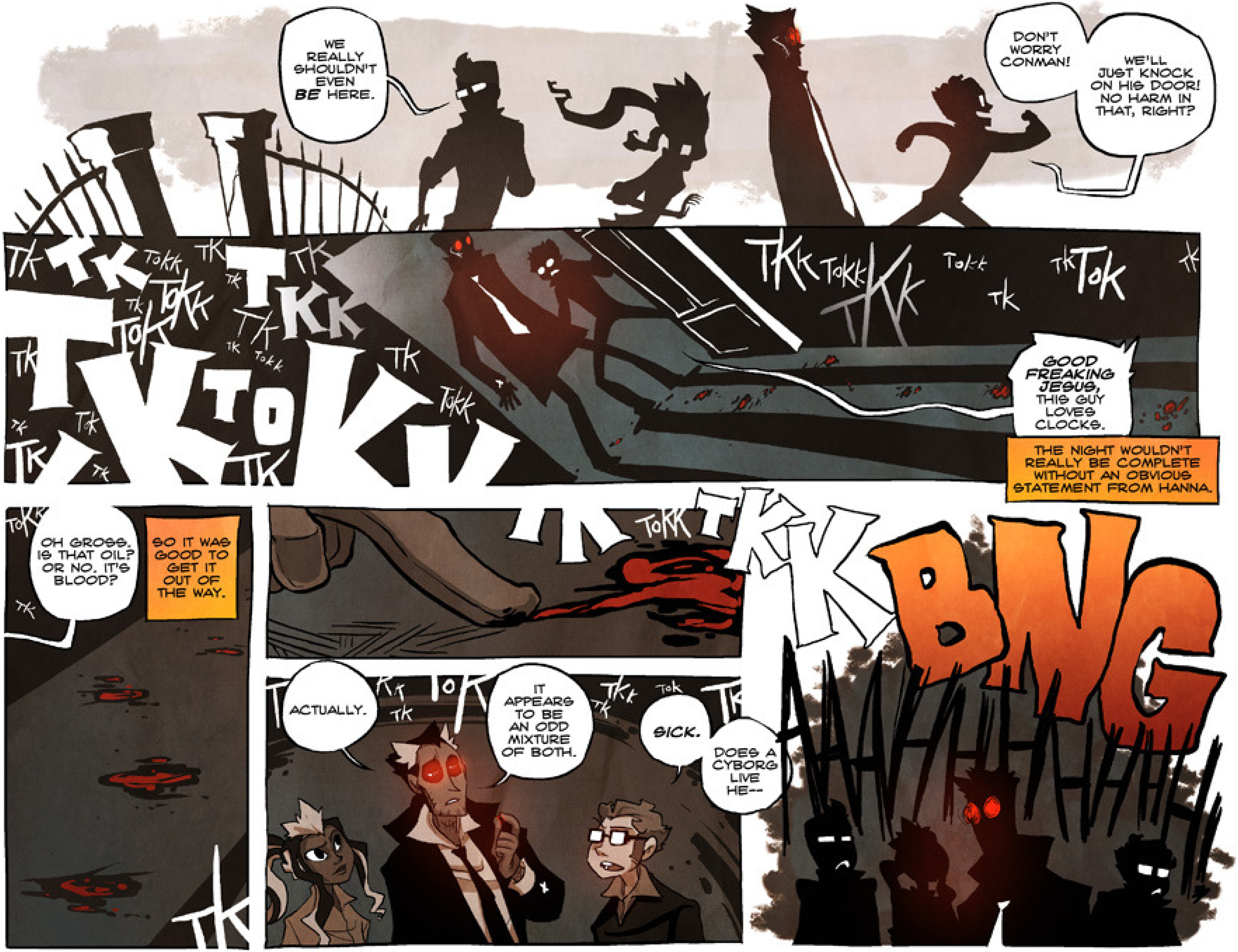

...AND SO I WAS THINKING SINCE YOU'RE BASICALLY LIKE A DOG YOU COULD GET HIS SCENT AND *TRACK HIM.* MAYBE?
WHAT?
IT ACTUALLY WASN'T A BAD IDEA, THOUGH A BIT FARFETCHED. HOWEVER, WHILE I MIGHT BE TEN YEARS OUT OF PRACTICE WITH WOMEN, I'M FAIRLY SURE CALLING THEM A DOG IS POOR CHOICE.
NO, NO
HE'S NOT SAYING YOU'RE A *DOG* DOG, WHAT HE MEANS IS--
DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG?
UM.
I'M NOT SURE WHAT HE MEANS.
HFF. IGNORING THE FACT THAT THE REQUEST WAS UTTERLY *TACTLESS*...
I'D LIKE TO HELP.

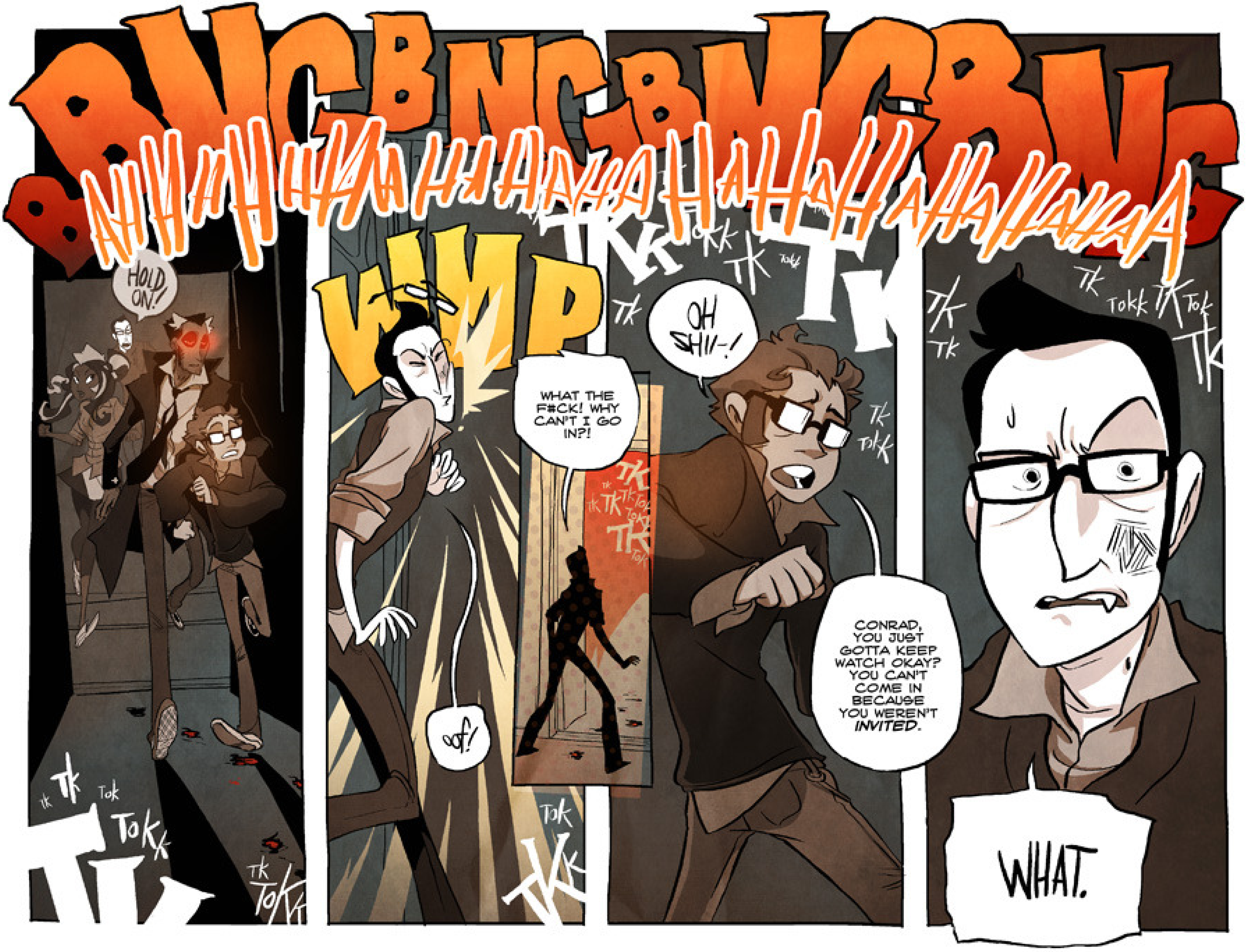

I'D HAVE TO ACTUALLY TURN TO PICK UP ANY SCENTS... WHICH MEANS I HAVE TO USE *THIS*.
BUT IT BROKE RECENTLY, WHICH MAKES MY SHIFTING PRETTY UNSTABLE WHEN IT DOESN'T OCCUR DURING A FULL MOON.
IT'S WHY I WAS LUCKY THAT THE VAMPIRES BULLYING CONRAD BACKED OFF RELATIVELY EASY -- I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PULL THROUGH FOR AN ACTUAL FIGHT. MY FORM WAS INCOMPLETE ANYWAYS, AND I THINK THE TALL CREEP KNEW THAT.
I CAN USE A LITTLE POWER TO SNIFF YOUR GUY OUT, BUT...
I WAS WONDERING IF AFTERWARDS YOU COULD FIND SOMEONE TO FIX IT.
I HATE ASKING FOR A FAVOR IN RETURN, BUT I'M REALLY LIMITED WITH IT CRACKED.
YES.
I CAN DO IT! I CAN FIX IT FOR YOU, *EASY*. ALL I WOULD NEED IS THE RIGHT STUFF.
BUT FIRST.
IF YOU WOULD TAKE US TO WHOEVER OWNS THIS GEAR I WOULD FOREVER BE IN YOUR *DEBT!*
BRUNGE
1000-1500 WA

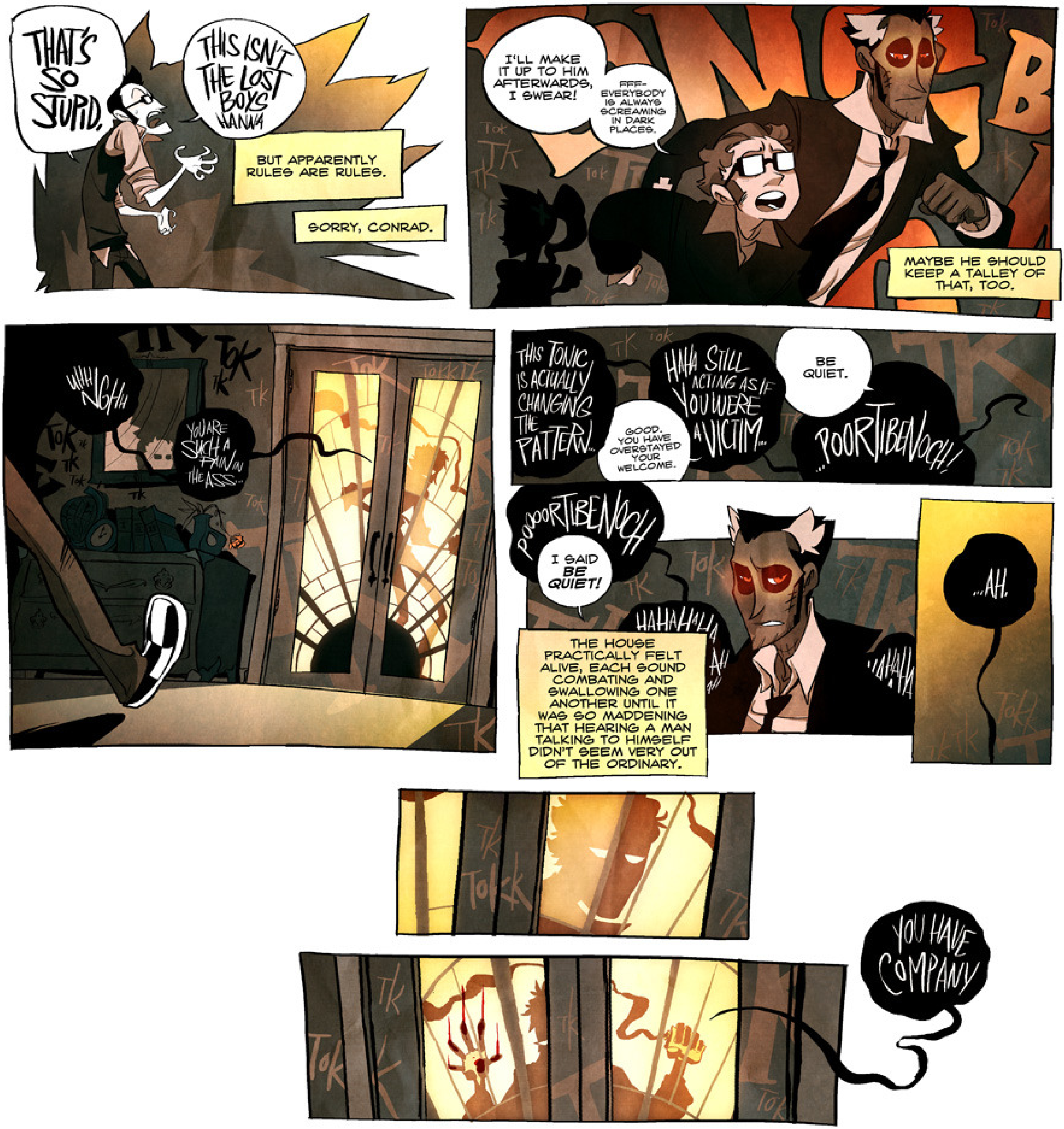

SO. YOU'RE ACTUALLY A WEREWOLF.
YEP!
HM. IT'S ADMITTEDLY NOT QUITE HOW I IMAGINED IT.
HAHA, WELL THIS FORM HELPS CONSERVE ENERGY FROM THE PENDANT. BESIDES...
YOU'RE NOT QUITE THE USUAL ARCHETYPE FOR VAMPIRES EITHER. I DON'T THINK SWEATER VESTS AND NERDY GLASSES REALLY SCREAM *NOSFERATU.*
YOU'RE NEW TO THIS, AREN'T CHA?
PT PT PT PT PT
YES, I AM. THIS IS ALL A LOAD OF NONSENSE. LIKE ONE GIANT *TASTE-LESS* PRACTICAL JOKE. I KEEP THINKING AT ANY MOMENT ONE OF YOU WILL TURN TO ME AND BE ALL '*JUST KIDDING!*' AND I DUNNO, TELL ME I'M HIGH ON VICODIN.
NOPE! IT'S ALL REAL!
goody.
PT PT PT PT

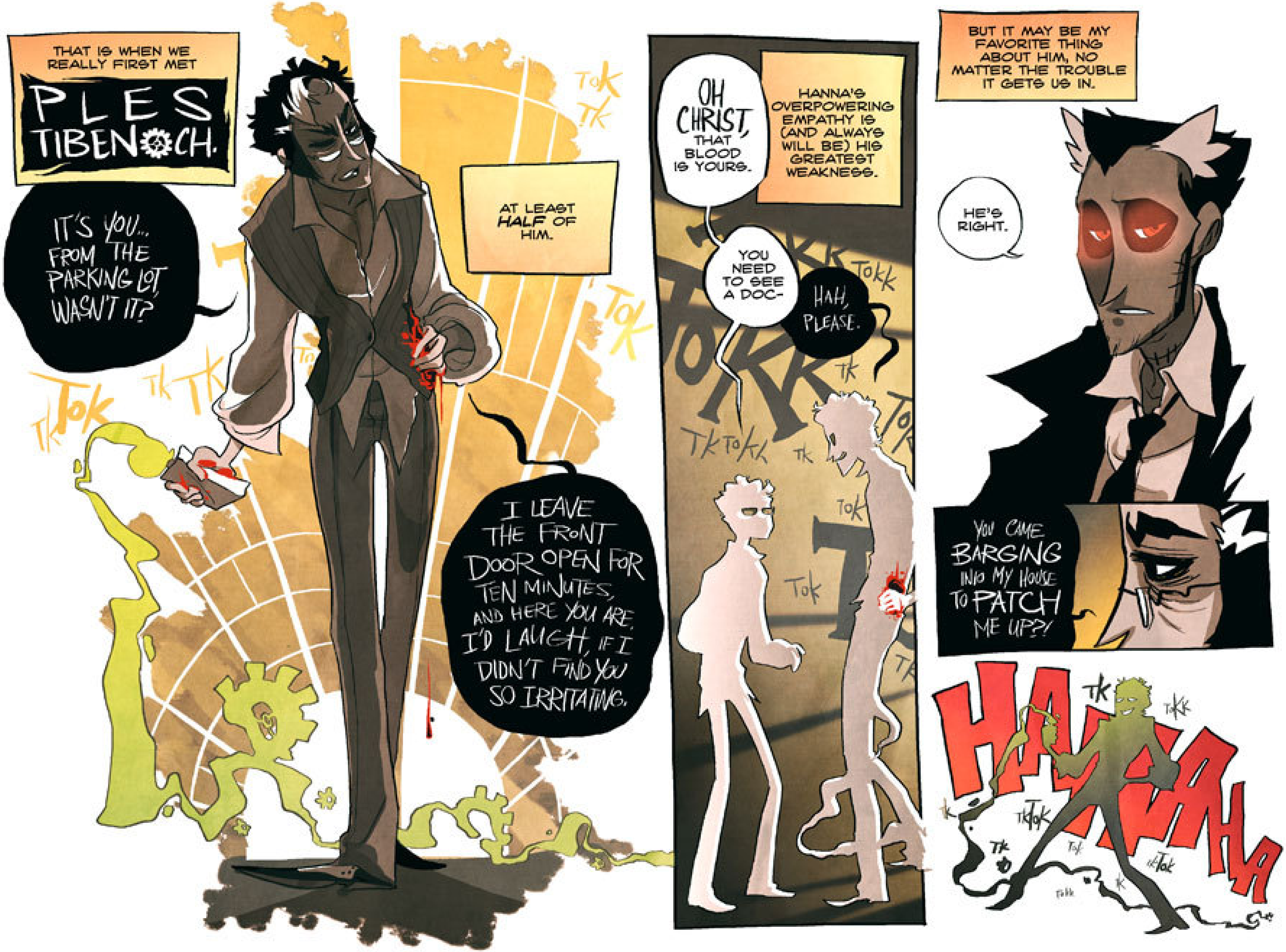

BY THE WAY, **HANNA.** I HOPE YOU DON'T THINK I'LL JUST SIT OUTSIDE AND DO NOTHING AGAIN.
THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT YOU THAT DRAWS OUT ALL THE PARANORMAL ODDITIES. I *AM* ONE, AND I HAVE NEVER SEEN SO MANY UNTIL YOU.
I DON'T KNOW WHY THAT IS, BUT I'M NOT GOING TO SIT HERE AND LET IT ALL PASS ME BY, SO DON'T EVEN *THINK* ABOUT BOSSING ME AROUND.
YOU'RE *SO* CUTE IN THIS FORM, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO ARGUE WITH YOU.
!!!
WhoA.
...NICE HOUSE.
TK TK TK TK

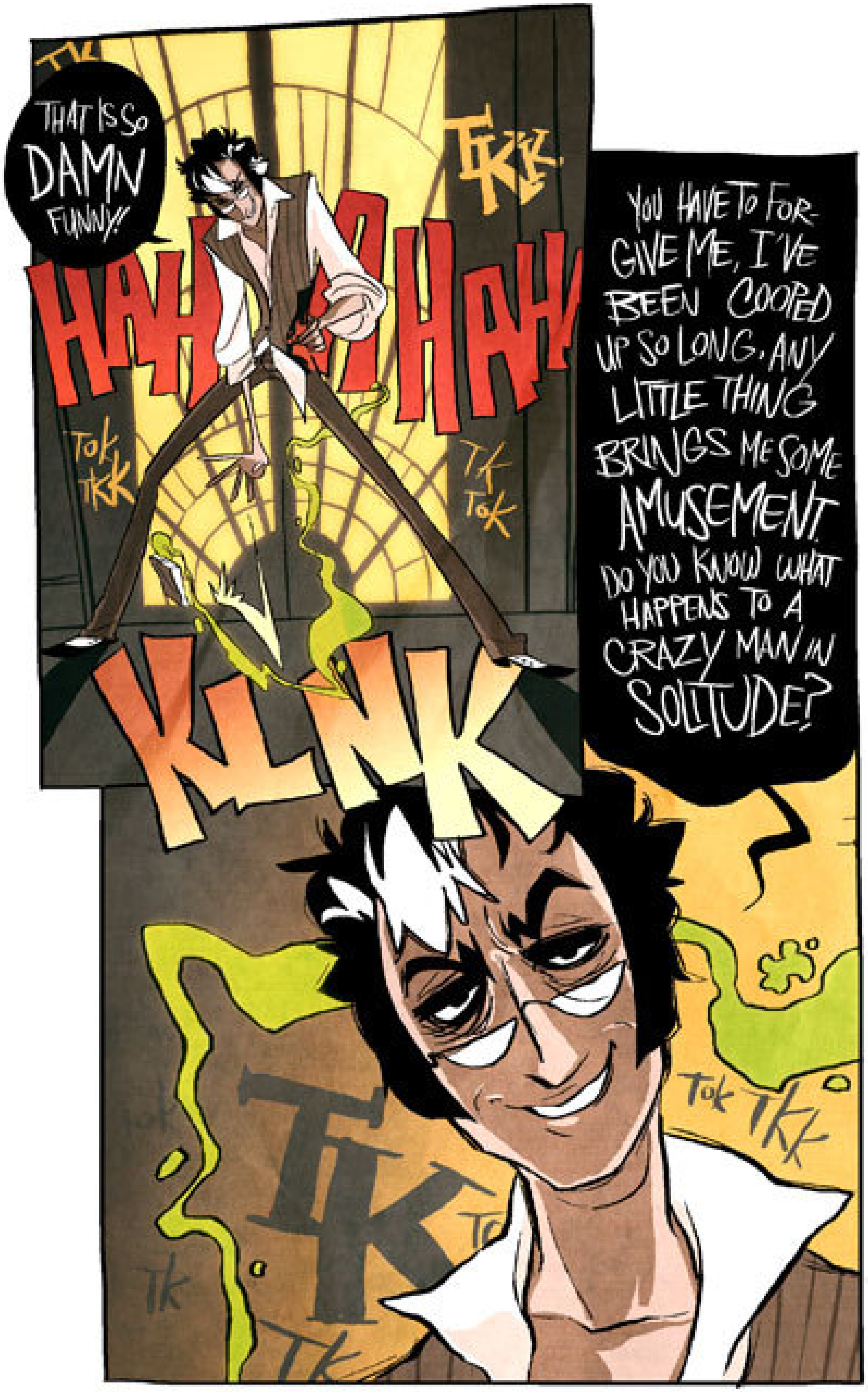

THIS IS DEFINITELY IT.
AGH--! SHE JUST- NOBODY CARES- HOW CAN YOU BE USED TO THAT.
THE PLACE REEKS MORE OF OIL AND MACHINARY THAN IT SHOULD. AND LOTS OF HEAVY UGH... CHEMICALS.
HUH.
THIS WHOLE PLACE IS PRETTY OFF.
WE SHOULD BE PRETTY CAREFUL, JUST IN CASE WHOEVER INSIDE ISN'T...YANNO. *HUMAN*.
FINE. I'LL JUST TALK TO MYSELF AGAIN.
WAIT
WHAT *EXACTLY* DO YOU PLAN ON DOING?!
I PLAN TO...
INVESTIGATE

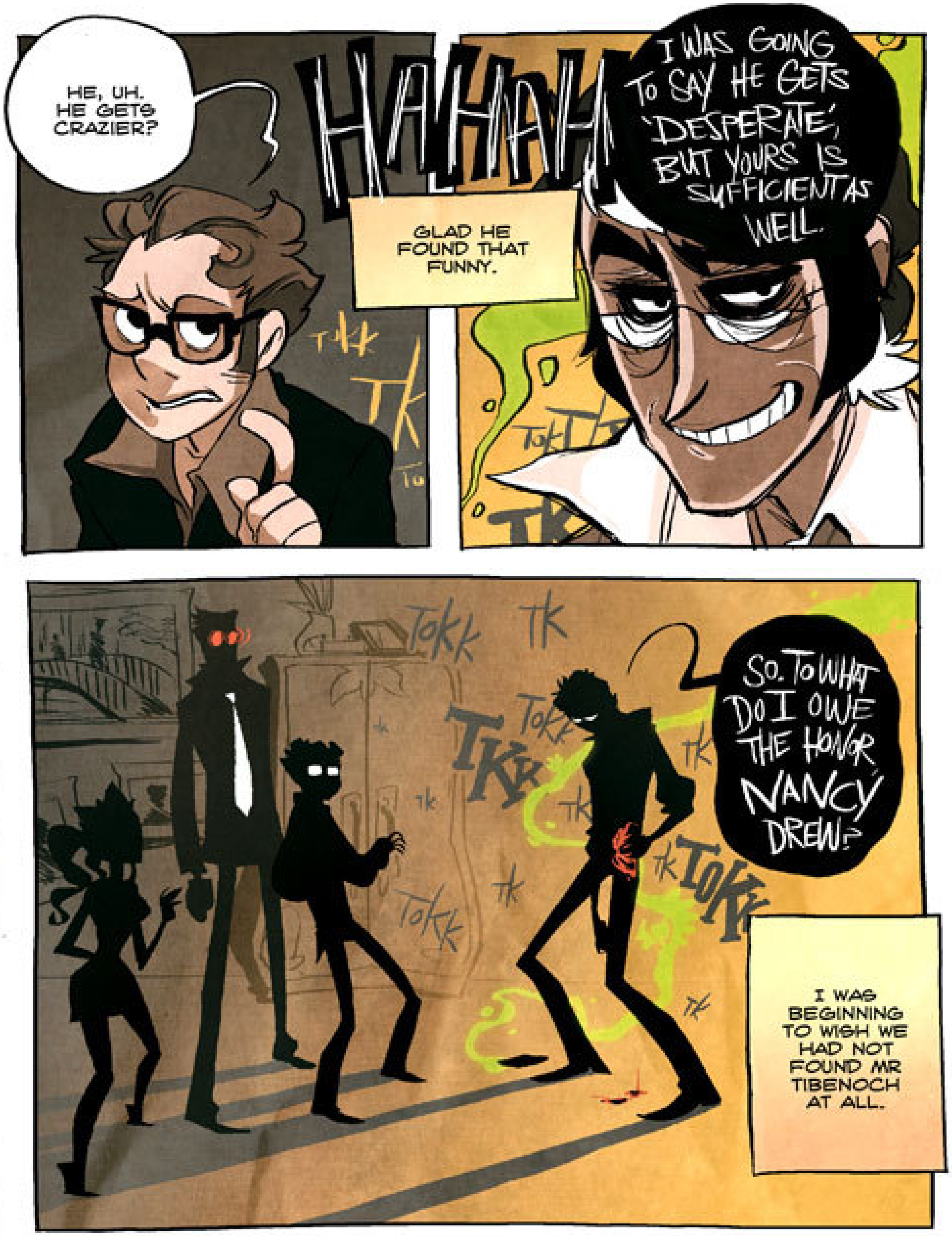

WE REALLY SHOULDN'T EVEN *BE* HERE.
DON'T WORRY CONMAN!
WE'LL JUST KNOCK ON HIS DOOR! NO HARM IN THAT, RIGHT?
TK TK TOKK TK TK TKK TOKK TOK TK TK TOKK TK TK TOKK TK TOK TOKK TK
TKK TOKK TKK TOKK TK TKTOK TK
GOOD FREAKING JESUS, THIS GUY LOVES CLOCKS.
THE NIGHT WOULDN'T REALLY BE COMPLETE WITHOUT AN OBVIOUS STATEMENT FROM HANNA.
OH GROSS. IS THAT OIL? OR NO. IT'S BLOOD?
SO IT WAS GOOD TO GET IT OUT OF THE WAY.
TOKK TK TK
TK TOKK TKK
ACTUALLY.
IT APPEARS TO BE AN ODD MIXTURE OF BOTH.
SICK.
DOES A CYBORG LIVE HE--
BNG
AAAHHHHHHHHH!

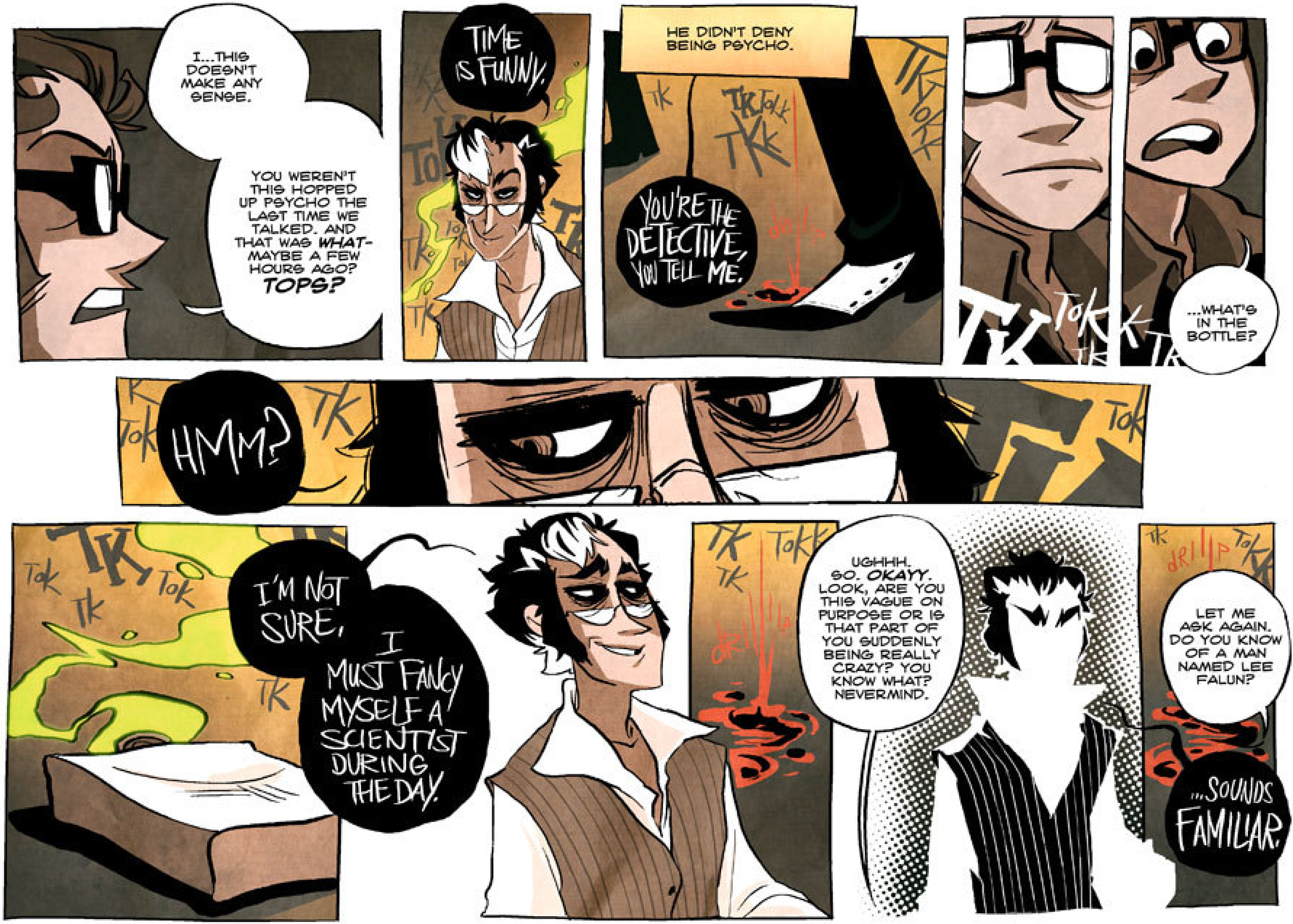

BNG BNG BNG BNG
AHHHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA
HOLD ON!
WMP
WHAT THE F#CK! WHY CAN'T I GO IN?!
oof!
TK TK TOK TOKK
OH SHI--!
CONRAD, YOU JUST GOTTA KEEP WATCH OKAY? YOU CAN'T COME IN BECAUSE YOU WEREN'T *INVITED*.
WHAT.

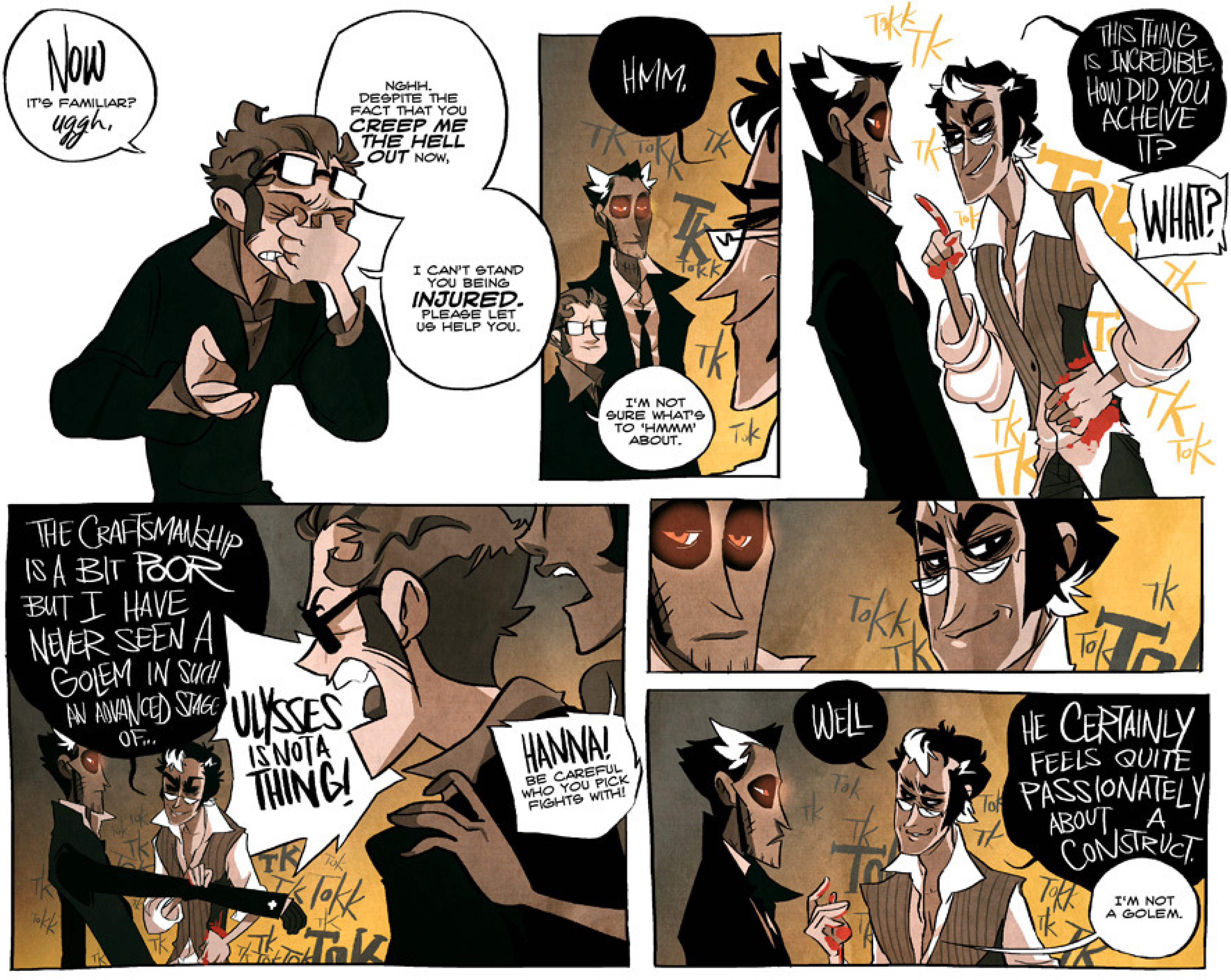

THAT'S SO STUPID.
THIS ISN'T THE LOST BOYS WANNA
BUT APPARENTLY RULES ARE RULES.
SORRY, CONRAD.
I'LL MAKE IT UP TO HIM AFTERWARDS, I SWEAR!
FFF- EVERYBODY IS ALWAYS SCREAMING IN DARK PLACES.
MAYBE HE SHOULD KEEP A TALLEY OF THAT, TOO.
UHH NGH
YOU ARE SUCH A PAIN IN THE ASS...
THIS TONIC IS ACTUALLY CHANGING THE PATTERN...
GOOD. YOU HAVE OVERSTAYED YOUR WELCOME.
HAHA STILL ACTING AS IF YOU WERE A VICTIM...
BE QUIET.
...POOR TIBENOCH!
POOOOR TIBENOCH
I SAID BE QUIET!
HAHAHAHA HAH
HAHAHA
THE HOUSE PRACTICALLY FELT ALIVE, EACH SOUND COMBATING AND SWALLOWING ONE ANOTHER UNTIL IT WAS SO MADDENING THAT HEARING A MAN TALKING TO HIMSELF DIDN'T SEEM VERY OUT OF THE ORDINARY.
...AH.
YOU HAVE COMPANY

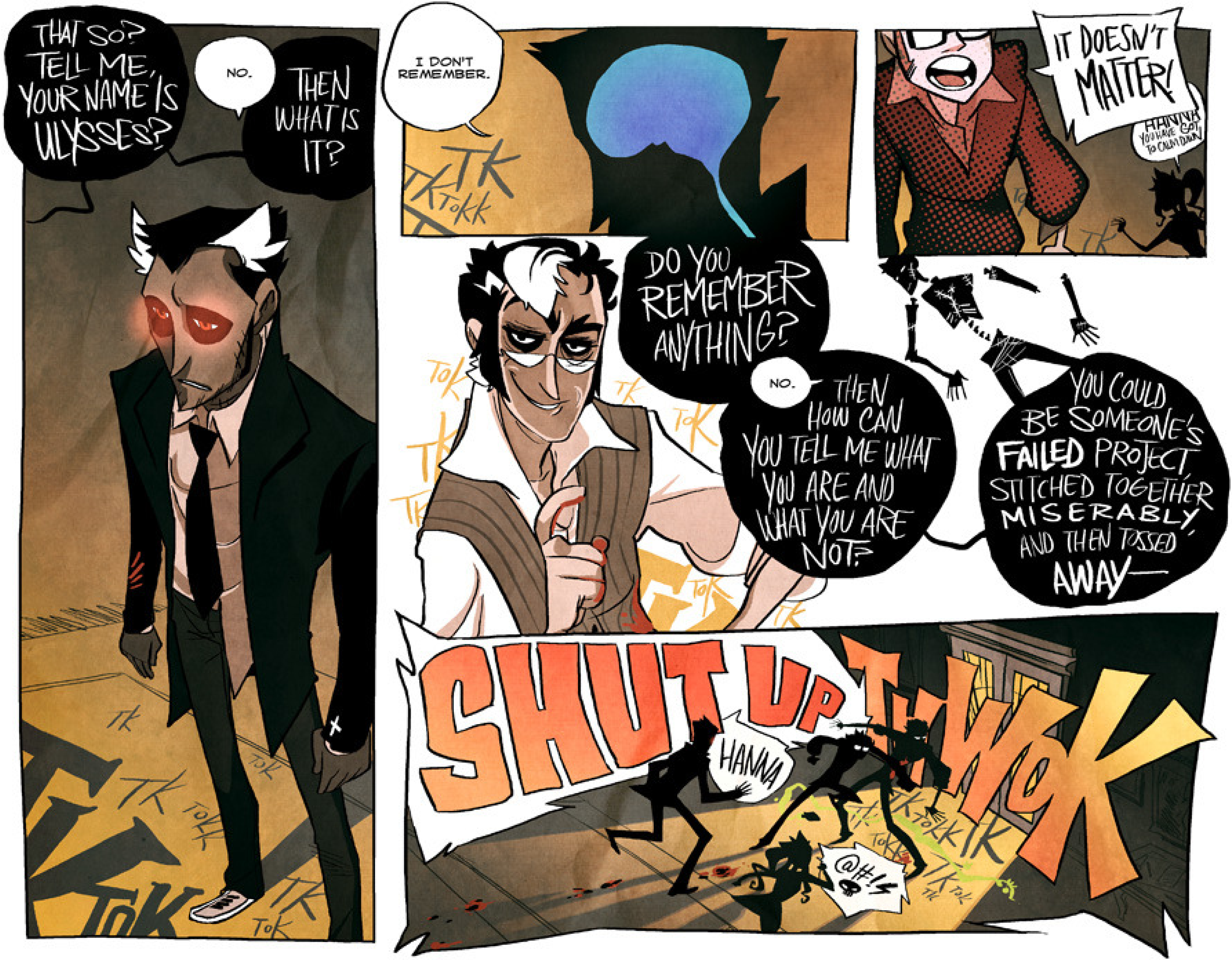

THAT IS WHEN WE REALLY FIRST MET
PLES TIBENOCH.
IT'S YOU... FROM THE PARKING LOT, WASN'T IT?
TK TOK
TK TK
AT LEAST HALF OF HIM.
TOK TK
TOK
I LEAVE THE FRONT DOOR OPEN FOR TEN MINUTES, AND HERE YOU ARE. I'D LAUGH, IF I DIDN'T FIND YOU SO IRRITATING.
OH CHRIST, THAT BLOOD IS YOURS.
HANNA'S OVERPOWERING EMPATHY IS (AND ALWAYS WILL BE) HIS GREATEST WEAKNESS.
YOU NEED TO SEE A DOC-
HAH, PLEASE.
TOKK TOKK
TK TOKK TK
TOK
TOK
BUT IT MAY BE MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT HIM, NO MATTER THE TROUBLE IT GETS US IN.
HE'S RIGHT.
YOU CAME BARGING INTO MY HOUSE TO PATCH ME UP?!
HAHAHAHA
TK TOKK
TK TKTOK TK TOK TOK TOKK

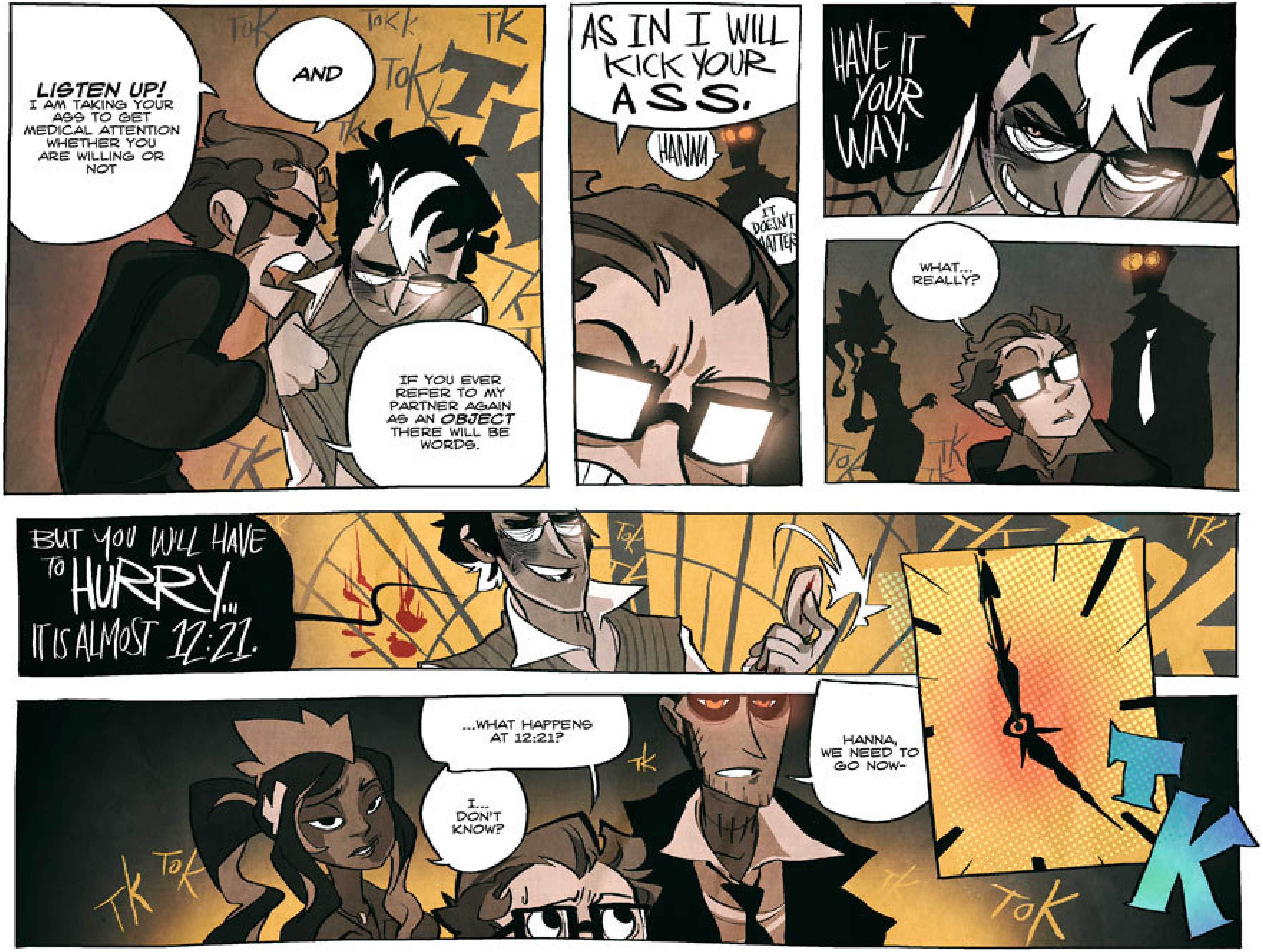

THAT IS SO DAMN FUNNY!!
HAH HAH HAH HAH
TKK
TOK TKK
TK TOK
KLINK
YOU HAVE TO FORGIVE ME, I'VE BEEN COOPED UP SO LONG, ANY LITTLE THING BRINGS ME SOME AMUSEMENT. DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS TO A CRAZY MAN IN SOLITUDE?
TOK TKK
TK

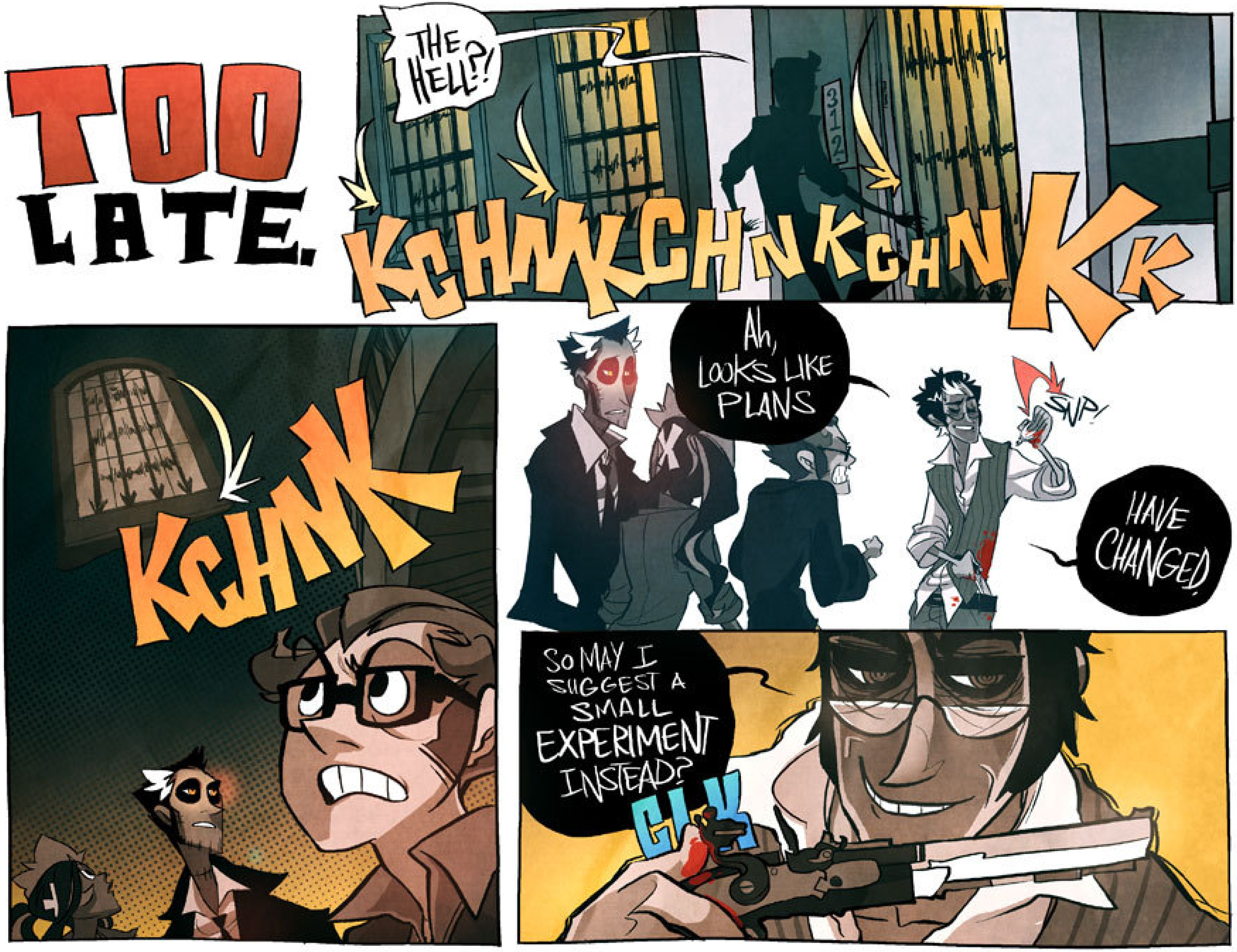

HE, UH. HE GETS CRAZIER?
HAHAHAH
GLAD HE FOUND THAT FUNNY.
I WAS GOING TO SAY HE GETS 'DESPERATE', BUT YOURS IS SUFFICIENT AS WELL.
TOKK TK
SO. TO WHAT DO I OWE THE HONOR, NANCY DREW?
I WAS BEGINNING TO WISH WE HAD NOT FOUND MR TIBENOCH AT ALL.

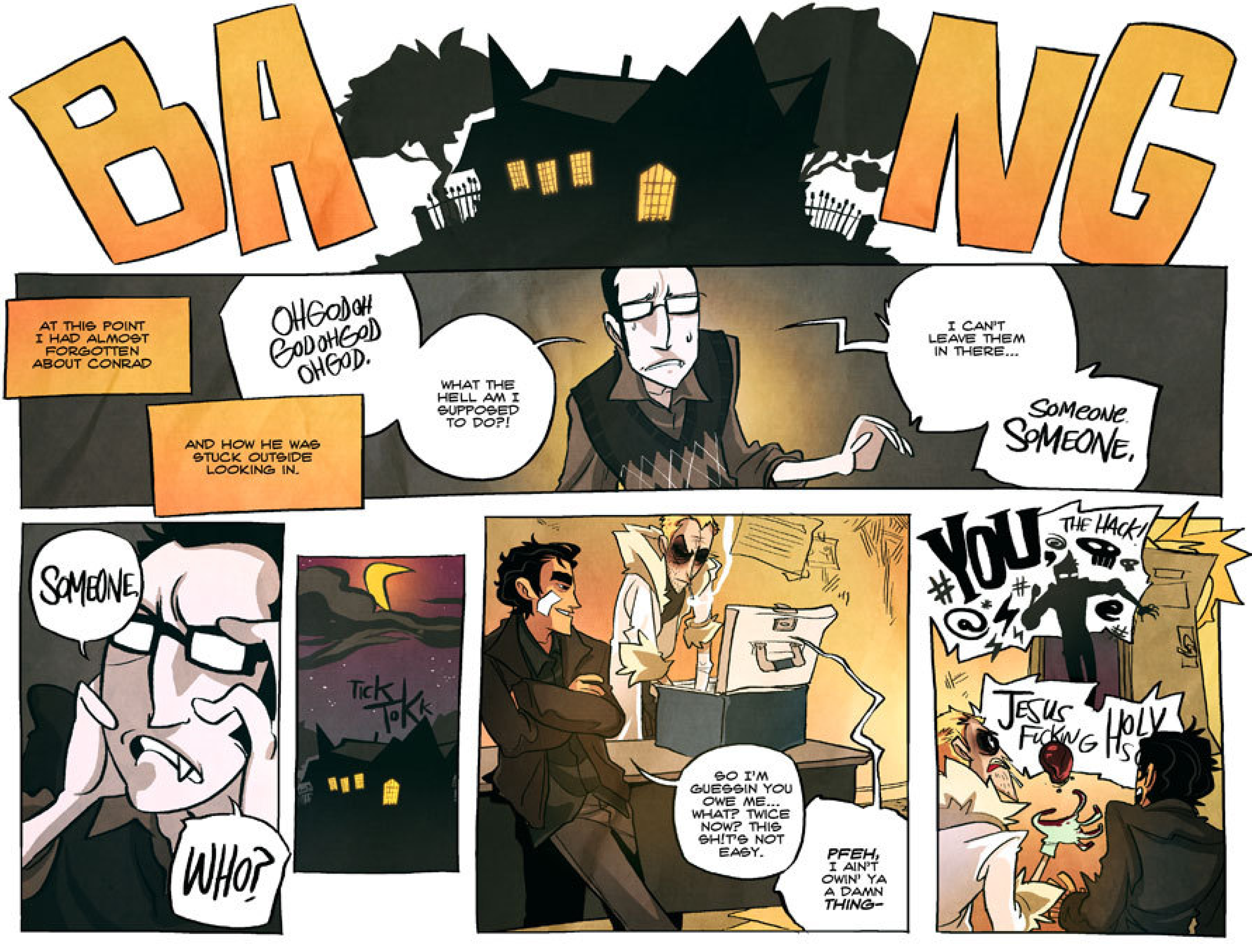

I...THIS DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE.
YOU WEREN'T THIS HOPPED UP PSYCHO THE LAST TIME WE TALKED. AND THAT WAS *WHAT*- MAYBE A FEW HOURS AGO? ***TOPS?***
TIME IS FUNNY.
HE DIDN'T DENY BEING PSYCHO.
YOU'RE THE DETECTIVE, YOU TELL ME.
drip
TK TOKK
...WHAT'S IN THE BOTTLE?
HMM?
I'M NOT SURE,
I MUST FANCY MYSELF A SCIENTIST DURING THE DAY.
drip
UGHHH. SO. *OKAYY*. LOOK, ARE YOU THIS VAGUE ON PURPOSE OR IS THAT PART OF YOU SUDDENLY BEING REALLY CRAZY? YOU KNOW WHAT? NEVERMIND.
drip
LET ME ASK AGAIN. DO YOU KNOW OF A MAN NAMED LEE FALUN?
...SOUNDS FAMILIAR.

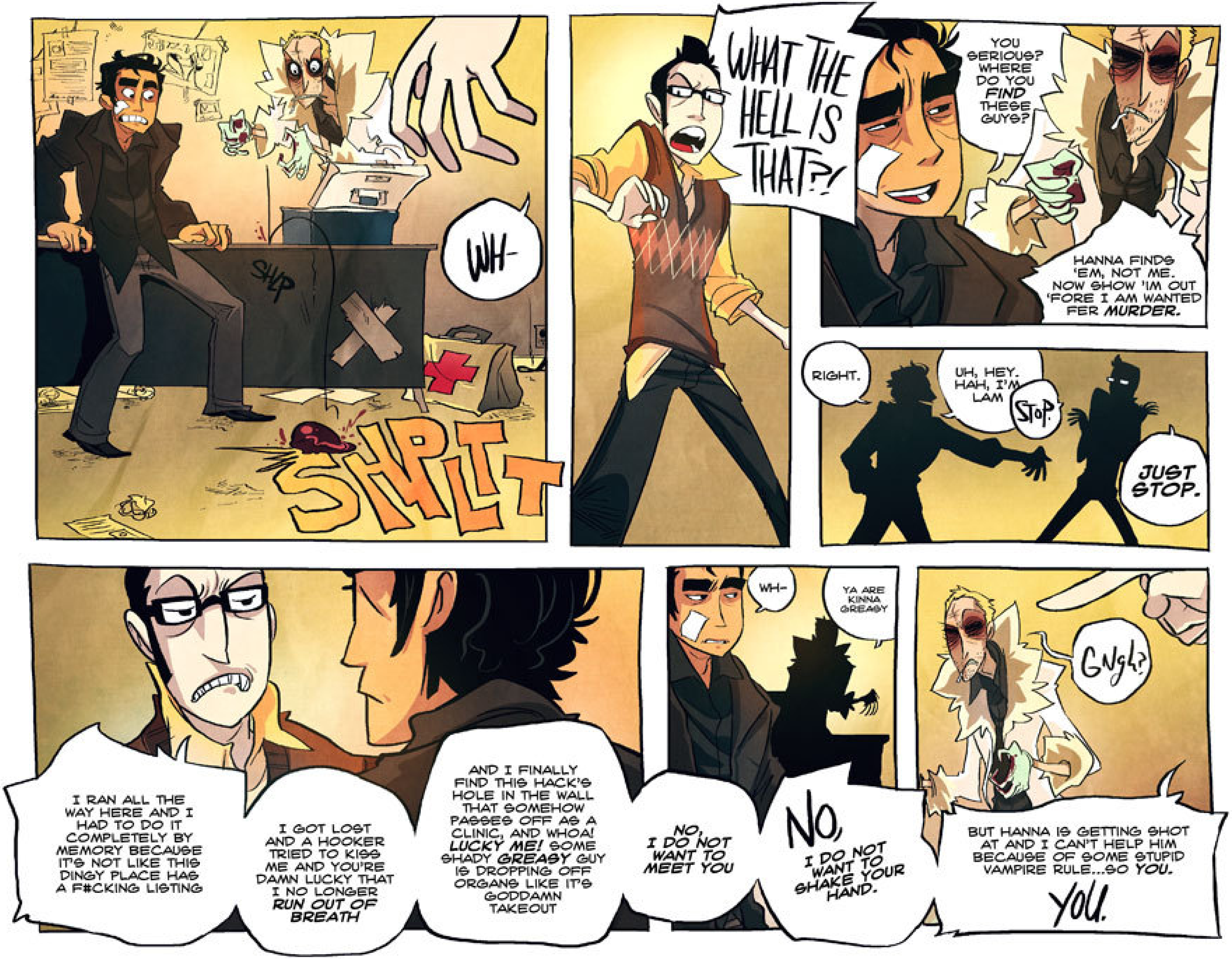

NOW IT'S FAMILIAR? uggh.
NGHH. DESPITE THE FACT THAT YOU CREEP ME THE HELL OUT NOW,
I CAN'T STAND YOU BEING INJURED. PLEASE LET US HELP YOU.
HMM.
I'M NOT SURE WHAT'S TO 'HMMM' ABOUT.
TOKK TK
THIS THING IS INCREDIBLE. HOW DID YOU ACHEIVE IT?
WHAT?
THE CRAFTSMANSHIP IS A BIT POOR BUT I HAVE NEVER SEEN A GOLEM IN SUCH AN ADVANCED STAGE OF...
ULYSSES IS NOT A THING!
HANNA! BE CAREFUL WHO YOU PICK FIGHTS WITH!
WELL
HE CERTAINLY FEELS QUITE PASSIONATELY ABOUT A CONSTRUCT.
I'M NOT A GOLEM.

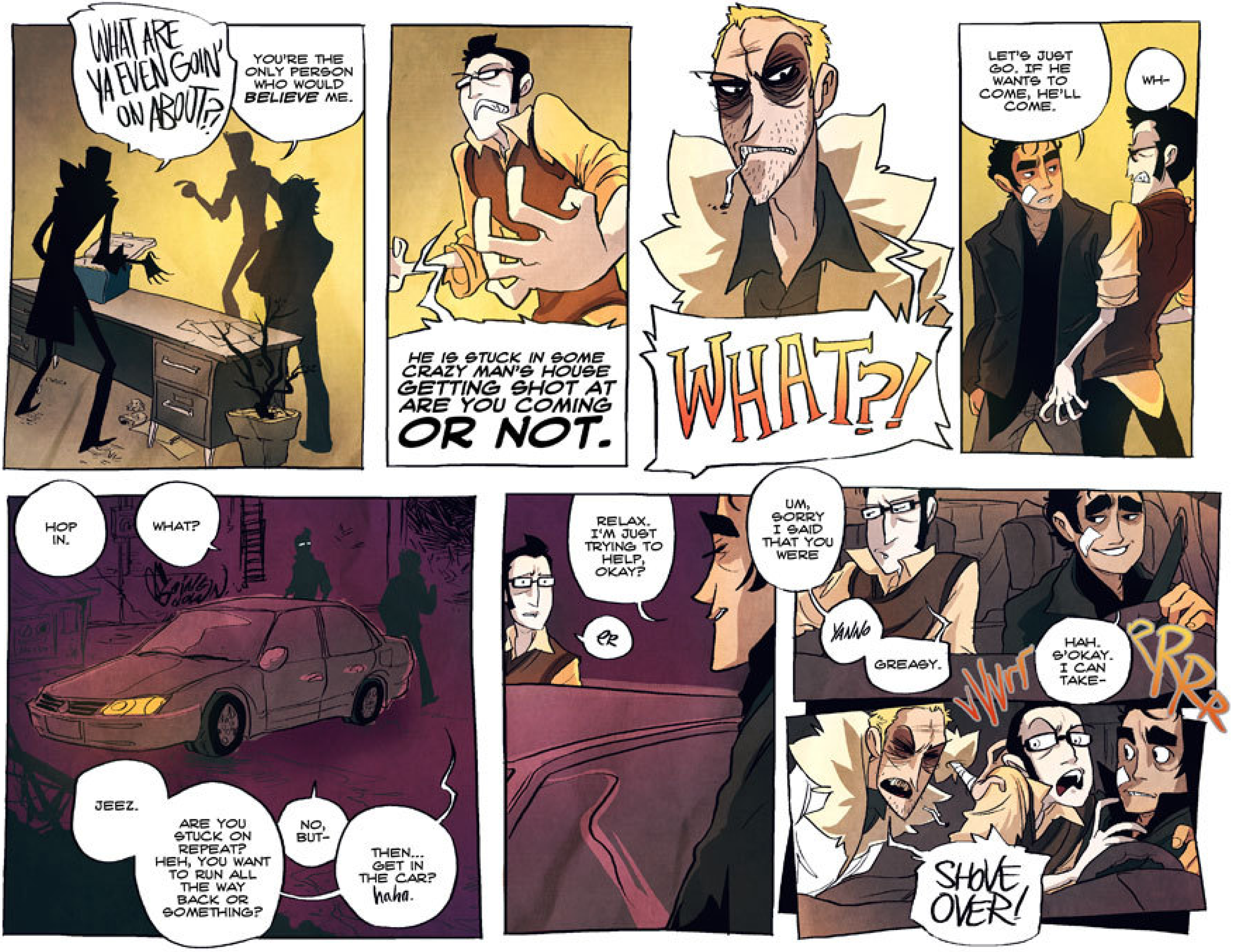

THAT SO? TELL ME, YOUR NAME IS ULYSSES?
NO.
THEN WHAT IS IT?
I DON'T REMEMBER.
TK TK TOKK
IT DOESN'T MATTER!
HANNA YOU HAVE GOT TO CALM DOWN
DO YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING?
NO.
THEN HOW CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT YOU ARE AND WHAT YOU ARE NOT?
YOU COULD BE SOMEONE'S FAILED PROJECT, STITCHED TOGETHER MISERABLY, AND THEN TOSSED AWAY—
TOK TK TOK TK
SHUT UP
THWOK
HANNA
@#!%
TK TOKK TK
TK TOKK TOK TK

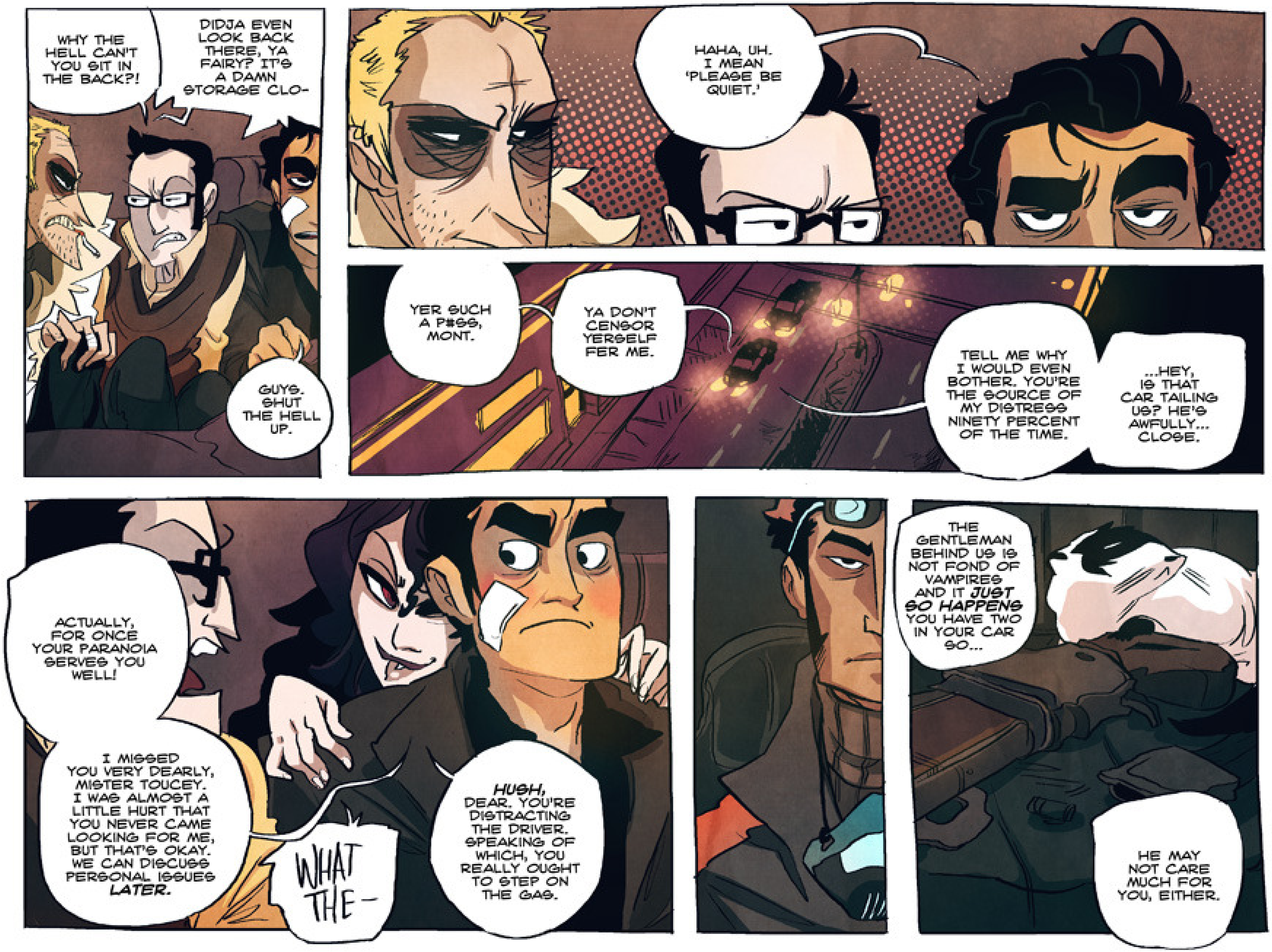

TOK TOKK TK TOK TK
LISTEN UP! I AM TAKING YOUR ASS TO GET MEDICAL ATTENTION WHETHER YOU ARE WILLING OR NOT
AND
IF YOU EVER REFER TO MY PARTNER AGAIN AS AN OBJECT THERE WILL BE WORDS.
AS IN I WILL KICK YOUR ASS.
HANNA
IT DOESN'T MATTER
HAVE IT YOUR WAY.
WHAT... REALLY?
TOK TK
BUT YOU WILL HAVE TO HURRY... IT IS ALMOST 12:21.
TOK TK
...WHAT HAPPENS AT 12:21?
I... DON'T KNOW?
HANNA, WE NEED TO GO NOW-
TK TOK TK TOK
TK

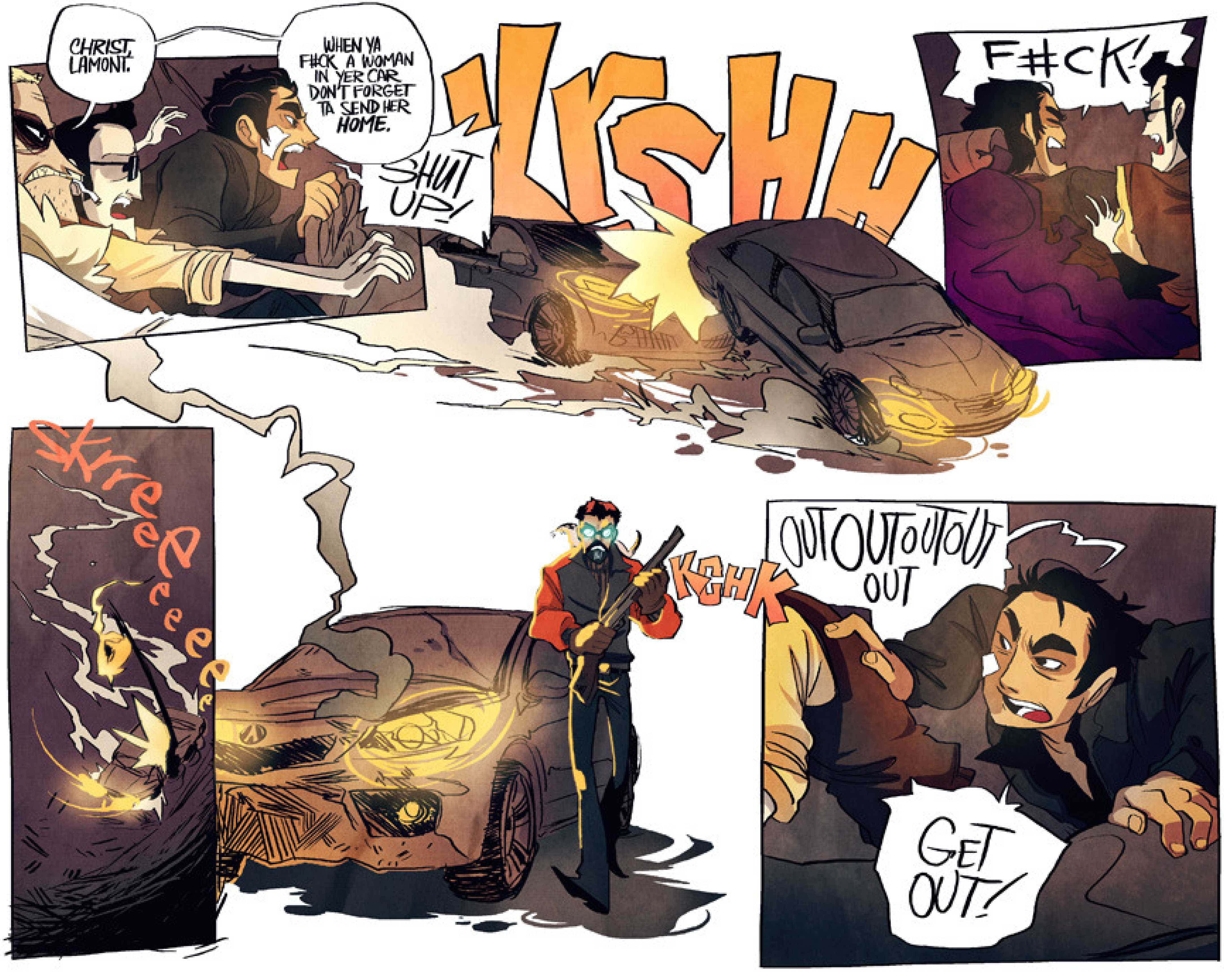

TOO LATE.
THE HELL?!
312
KCHNKCHNKCHNKCHNKk
KCHNK
Ah, LOOKS LIKE PLANS
SNP!
HAVE CHANGED.
SO MAY I SUGGEST A SMALL EXPERIMENT INSTEAD?
CLIK

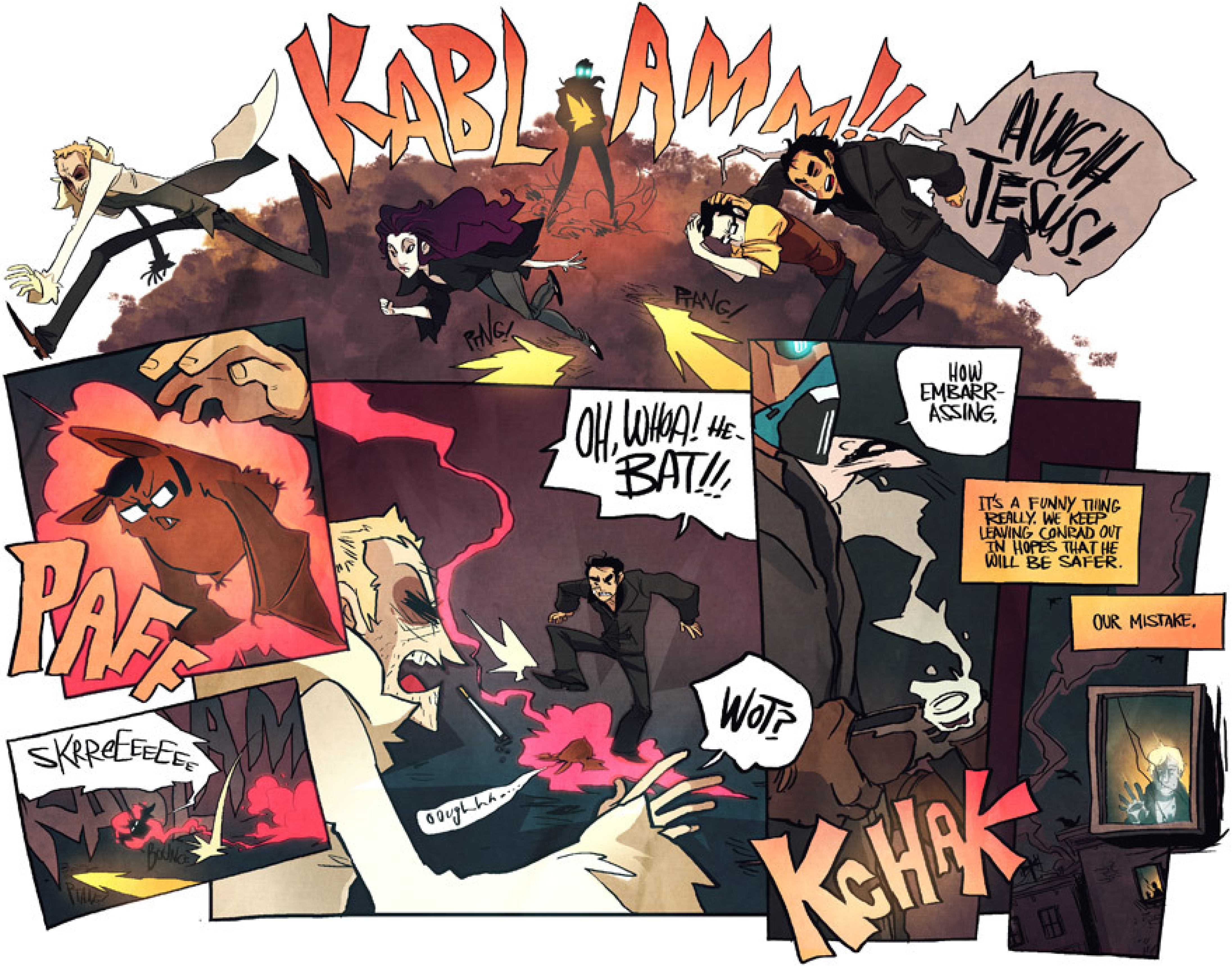

BANG
AT THIS POINT I HAD ALMOST FORGOTTEN ABOUT CONRAD
AND HOW HE WAS STUCK OUTSIDE LOOKING IN.
OHGODOH GODOHGOD OHGOD.
WHAT THE HELL AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?!
I CAN'T LEAVE THEM IN THERE...
SOMEONE. SOMEONE.
SOMEONE.
WHO?
TICK TOKK
SO I'M GUESSIN YOU OWE ME... WHAT? TWICE NOW? THIS SH!T'S NOT EASY.
PFEH, I AIN'T OWIN' YA A DAMN *THING*-
YOU, THE HACK!
JESUS FUCKING
HOLY S


SHP
WH-
SHPLTT
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?!
YOU SERIOUS? WHERE DO YOU FIND THESE GUYS?
HANNA FINDS 'EM, NOT ME. NOW SHOW 'IM OUT 'FORE I AM WANTED FER MURDER.
RIGHT.
UH, HEY. HAH, I'M LAM
STOP.
JUST STOP.
I RAN ALL THE WAY HERE AND I HAD TO DO IT COMPLETELY BY MEMORY BECAUSE IT'S NOT LIKE THIS DINGY PLACE HAS A F#CKING LISTING
I GOT LOST AND A HOOKER TRIED TO KISS ME AND YOU'RE DAMN LUCKY THAT I NO LONGER RUN OUT OF BREATH
AND I FINALLY FIND THIS HACK'S HOLE IN THE WALL THAT SOMEHOW PASSES OFF AS A CLINIC, AND WHOA! LUCKY ME! SOME SHADY GREASY GUY IS DROPPING OFF ORGANS LIKE IT'S GODDAMN TAKEOUT
NO, I DO NOT WANT TO MEET YOU
WH-
YA ARE KINNA GREASY
NO, I DO NOT WANT TO SHAKE YOUR HAND.
GNGH?
BUT HANNA IS GETTING SHOT AT AND I CAN'T HELP HIM BECAUSE OF SOME STUPID VAMPIRE RULE...SO YOU.
YOU.


WHAT ARE YA EVEN GOIN' ON ABOUT!?
YOU'RE THE ONLY PERSON WHO WOULD *BELIEVE* ME.
HE IS STUCK IN SOME CRAZY MAN'S HOUSE GETTING SHOT AT ARE YOU COMING OR NOT.
WHAT?!
LET'S JUST GO. IF HE WANTS TO COME, HE'LL COME.
WH-
HOP IN.
WHAT?
JEEZ.
ARE YOU STUCK ON REPEAT? HEH, YOU WANT TO RUN ALL THE WAY BACK OR SOMETHING?
NO, BUT-
THEN... GET IN THE CAR? haha.
RELAX. I'M JUST TRYING TO HELP, OKAY?
ER
UM, SORRY I SAID THAT YOU WERE
YAWNG
GREASY.
HAH. S'OKAY. I CAN TAKE-
VVVRR
PRRR
SHOVE OVER!


WHY THE HELL CAN'T YOU SIT IN THE BACK?!
DIDJA EVEN LOOK BACK THERE, YA FAIRY? IT'S A DAMN STORAGE CLO-
GUYS. SHUT THE HELL UP.
HAHA, UH. I MEAN 'PLEASE BE QUIET.'
YER SUCH A P#SS, MONT.
YA DON'T CENSOR YERSELF FER ME.
TELL ME WHY I WOULD EVEN BOTHER. YOU'RE THE SOURCE OF MY DISTRESS NINETY PERCENT OF THE TIME.
...HEY, IS THAT CAR TAILING US? HE'S AWFULLY... CLOSE.
ACTUALLY, FOR ONCE YOUR PARANOIA SERVES YOU WELL!
I MISSED YOU VERY DEARLY, MISTER TOUCEY. I WAS ALMOST A LITTLE HURT THAT YOU NEVER CAME LOOKING FOR ME, BUT THAT'S OKAY. WE CAN DISCUSS PERSONAL ISSUES *LATER.*
WHAT THE-
HUSH, DEAR. YOU'RE DISTRACTING THE DRIVER. SPEAKING OF WHICH, YOU REALLY OUGHT TO STEP ON THE GAS.
THE GENTLEMAN BEHIND US IS NOT FOND OF VAMPIRES AND IT *JUST SO HAPPENS* YOU HAVE TWO IN YOUR CAR SO...
HE MAY NOT CARE MUCH FOR YOU, EITHER.


CHRIST, LAMONT.
WHEN YA F#CK A WOMAN IN YER CAR DON'T FORGET TA SEND HER *HOME*.
SHUT UP!
'KRSHH
F#CK!
Skreeeeeeeeee
KCHK
OUTOUTOUTOUT OUT
GET OUT!


KABLAMM!!
AUGH JESUS!
PING!
PRANG!
PAFF
OH, WHOA! HE- BAT!!!
HOW EMBARR-ASSING.
IT'S A FUNNY THING REALLY. WE KEEP LEAVING CONRAD OUT IN HOPES THAT HE WILL BE SAFER.
OUR MISTAKE.
SKRREEEEEEE
BOUNCE
PING
WOT?
ooughhh...
KCHAK